

File No. **E 2/30**

PART

FOREIGN
OFFICE

DEPT. **EASTERN**

TITLE: **GENERAL** *Political Affairs - Multilateral
Middle East Crisis*

U.K. Diplomatic Relations with Syria Jordan Iraq + Lebanon

REFER TO			REFER TO			REFER TO		
DEPT.	NAME	DATE	DEPT.	NAME	DATE	DEPT.	NAME	DATE
E	Mr. Saunders	13/6						
	Mr. Rich	11/7						
	MASANDER	27/2						
	Mr. Saunders	15/1						
	W.C. ADJRY	17/1						
	W.C. ADJRY	17/1						
	NEAD.							
	ARS.	24/1						
	D. Montgomery	21/1						

CO-159

E REG. R271 K.C.B.

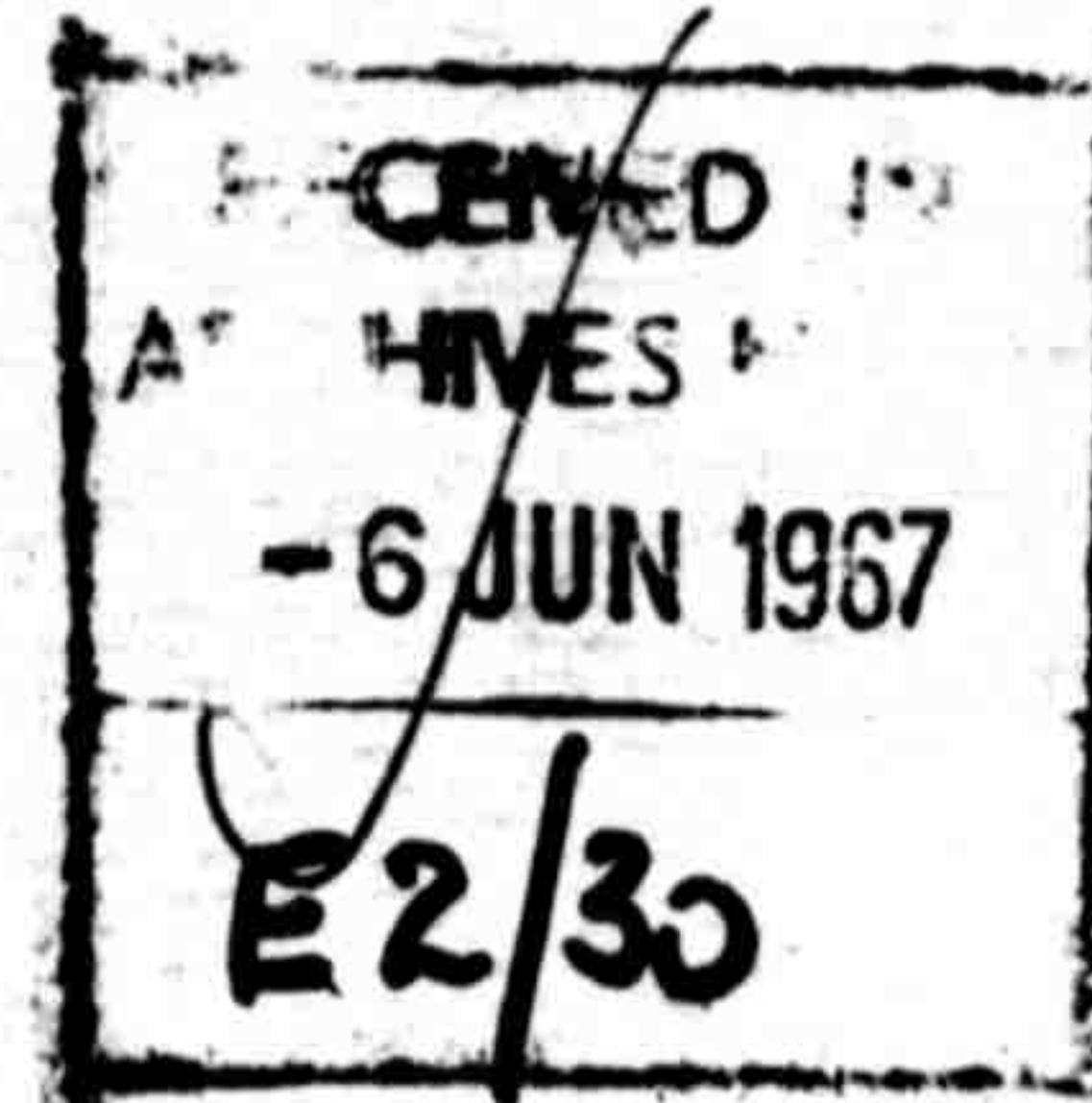
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FILE
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FILE No. **E 2/30**

PART

①
CONFIDENTIAL



Mr. Branchley

Possible Breach of Relations
with Syria and Jordan

Problem

The selection of a protecting power to look after British interests in the event of the breaking off of diplomatic relations between Her Majesty's Government and the Governments of Syria or Jordan or both.

Recommendation

2. That, in the case of Jordan, we should accept the Ambassador's recommendation that the French should be invited to look after our interests in Amman and Jerusalem and that in the case of Syria we should accept Her Majesty's Ambassador's (Damascus) recommendation that the Swiss should be invited to act on our behalf there.

Argument

3. The present situation in the Middle East makes it a matter of common prudence to consider what arrangements should be made to look after our interests there in the event of a rupture of diplomatic relations between ourselves and some or all of the Arab States. A separate submission has been prepared recommending that Ambassadors in the area be instructed to consider which of their colleagues would be most suitable to act on our behalf in the event of a break.

Flags A and B 4. With regard to Jordan, we already have recommendations from Her Majesty's Ambassador and from H.M. Consul-General, Jerusalem, that we should ask the French. In view of France's detachment from the present crisis and her generally good relations with the Arab States, this suggestion seems

/to

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

- 2 -

to me sound (within Jordan our own posture has already been
--- compared unfavourably with that of France). I attach a
draft telegram to Paris.

Flag C

5. During November a breach in relations with Syria was
regarded as a possibility. At that time the Ambassador
recommended that should this come about the Swiss should
be invited to act as protecting power. In the present
Flag D situation, he has again recommended the Swiss. In view of
their position as a neutral country and of the fact that
they have acted for us on many occasions elsewhere, I support
--- this recommendation. I submit a draft telegram to Berne.

6. Western, Central and Consular Departments concur.

W. Morris

(W. Morris)
30 May, 1967.

Sir D. Allen

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

I am doubtful about French protection in Jordan.
If they join us in contingency planning they may lose
relations too. It is more likely that they will refuse,
but even so Ministers will not like the idea that we are
planning for a situation in which we lose relations and
the French don't.

CONFIDENTIAL

T. Bernickley
31/5 J

I agree with Mr. Brenchley.
Subject to Mr. Thomson's views
and to those of Jerusalem and Amman
I think we should go for someone
other than the French, e.g. the
Turks (as suggested by Jerusalem)
or again the Swiss.

Shirley Allen. / 6.

Mr. Thomson

I agree with Lord Allen. It would be
very unpalatable to ask his presence
to remain in French as his hold in
the crisis.

QS
4/6

✓ 16/6

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(2)

RECEIVED IN ARCHIVES No. 15 - 6 JUN 1967 E2/30

Enter
TFB
6/6

Mr. Branchley

Sir D. Allen

Possible Breach of Relations
with Syria, Jordan, Iraq and Lebanon

Problem

The selection of a protecting power or powers to look after British interests in the event of the breaking off of diplomatic relations with Her Majesty's Government on the part of the Governments of Syria, Jordan, Iraq or Lebanon or all of them.

Recommendation

2. That, in the case of both Iraq and Lebanon, we should accept the Ambassador's recommendations that the Swedes should be invited to look after our interests; that in the case of Syria we should invite the Swiss and of Jordan and Jerusalem the Turks. Three draft telegrams are submitted accordingly.

Argument

3. The outbreak of war this morning between Israel and the Arab States makes it a distinct possibility that some, if not all, Arab States will break off relations with ourselves and other states whom they consider to have espoused the Israeli cause. Ambassadors have been asked to suggest which of their colleagues would be most suitable to act on our behalf in the event of the break.

FLAG A

/ 4.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

FL B
& C

4. Both Baghdad and Beirut have recommended their Swedish colleague. These recommendations seem to me sound. I
--- attach a draft telegram to Stockholm.

FLAG D

5. In my submission of 30 May I recommended the Swiss in the case of Syria. I still think the recommendation sound
--- and I attach a draft telegram to Berne.

6. Her Majesty's Ambassador Amman recommended that the French should look after our interests in both Amman and Jerusalem but in the light of Mr. Brenchley's and Sir D. Allen's minutes on my previous submission, I agree that we should seek an alternative and in view of the crucial question

FLAG E

of Jerusalem recommend that we accept H.M. Consul-General's
--- suggestion that it be the Turks. I attach a draft telegram to Ankara.

7. N.E.A.D. and Arabian Department will submit separately in respect of the countries with whom they deal.

W. Morris

(W. Morris)
5 June, 1967

Copy: N.E.A.D.
Arabian Dept.
Consular Dept.
General Dept.
Library

T.F. Brenchley
5/6

SA 76.

✓ 16

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Mr. Brenchley

Possible Breach of Relations
with Syria, Jordan, Iraq and Lebanon

Problem

The selection of a protecting power or powers to look after British interests in the event of the breaking off of diplomatic relations with Her Majesty's Government on the part of the Governments of Syria, Jordan, Iraq or Lebanon or all of them.

Recommendation

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/ 4.

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FLAG B 4. Both Baghdad and Beirut have recommended their Swedish colleague. These recommendations seem to me sound. I

--- attach a draft telegram to Stockholm.

FLAG D 5. In my submission of 30 May I recommended the Swiss in the case of Syria. I still think the recommendation sound

--- and I attach a draft telegram to Berne.

6. Her Majesty's Ambassador Amman recommended that the French should look after our interests in both Amman and Jerusalem but in the light of Mr. Brenchley's and Sir D. Allen's minutes on my previous submission, I agree that we should seek an alternative and in view of the crucial question of Jerusalem recommend that we accept H.M. Consul-General's

FLAG E --- suggestion that it be the Turks. I attach a draft telegram to Ankara.

7. N.E.A.D. and Arabian Department will submit separately in respect of the countries with whom they deal.

(W. Morris)
5 June, 1967

Copy: N.E.A.D.
Arabian Dept.
Consular Dept.
General Dept.
Library

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Stockholm

Washington, Beirut, Baghdad

**Washington
Beirut
Baghdad**

**Possible breach of diplomatic relations
between Arab Governments and H.M.G.**

The present situation carries the possibility that some or all Arab Governments will break off diplomatic relations with H.M.G. We consider that, in the event of a break of diplomatic relations with us by either Lebanon or Iraq or both, we should invite the Swedes to act on our behalf as protecting power in Beirut and Baghdad. Sweden is not locally regarded as implicated in the present struggle and enjoys good relations with the Arabs. Provided you see no objection, we shall be grateful if you would urgently take soundings at whatever level you consider appropriate to ascertain whether the Swedes would be willing to do this.

2. Please report their reaction by immediate telegram.

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Eastern

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Berne

Berne

Washington, Damascus

Amman, Jerusalem, Tel Aviv

**Possible breach of diplomatic relations
between H.M.G. and Syria.**

**When considering the possibility of a breach
of relations last November, Her Majesty's Ambassador
Damascus, recommended that we should invite the
Swiss to look after our interests in the event of
a break. The present crisis again carries with it
the possibility of a breach and on this occasion too
we consider that we should ask the Swiss to act.
We should be grateful, if you see no objection, if
you would urgently take soundings with the Ministry
of Foreign Affairs and ascertain whether they would
be agreeable to act on our behalf.**

**2. Please report their reaction by immediate
telegram.**

**Washington
Damascus**

**Amman
Jerusalem
Tel Aviv**

**Eastern
Central
Consular
E. & O.
Personnel**

CONFIDENTIAL

Eastern

CONFIDENTIAL

Ankara

Ankara

~~Washington, Amman, Jerusalem, Tel Aviv~~

Washington, Amman, Jerusalem,

Tel Aviv

Damascus, Berne

Washington
Amman
Jerusalem
Tel Aviv

Possible breach of diplomatic relations
between H.M.G. and the Government of Jordan.

Damascus
Berne

We consider that, in the event of a breach of diplomatic relations between us and Jordan, we should invite the Turks to act on our behalf as protecting power both in Amman and Jerusalem. Given Turkey's generally good relations with the Arab States and her detachment from the present crisis, she would seem well placed to look after our interests ~~pr~~ effectively in the event of a break. Provided you see no objection, we should be grateful if you would urgently take soundings at whatever level you consider appropriate in the Turkish Government to ascertain whether they would be willing to do this.

Eastern
Western
Consular
E & O
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2. Please report their reaction by immediate telegram.

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Cypher/Cat A

DAMASCUS TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Telno 329 28 May 1967

CONFIDENTIAL



United Kingdom/Syrian Relations.

Possibility that Syrians may break relations with Americans and us obviously cannot be excluded. There might be advantage in sounding now proposed protecting Power, the Swiss (see my telegram No. 540 of 5 November 1966).

Mr. Evans Sent 1000 28 May
Recd 2010 28 May

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Cypher/Cat: A

IMMEDIATE DAMASCUS TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Inc. 387 6 June, 1967

CONFIDENTIAL

My telegram No.329: United Kingdom/Syrian Relations.

The Arabs' blatant lies about British military aid to Israel, the closing of the Suez Canal and the suspension of the flow of oil from Iraq are presumably intended to bring pressure on Her Majesty's Government and the United States Government. If so, a break in diplomatic relations would appear to be more likely.

2. I am told that the Syrian Minister of Foreign Affairs today sent for all Heads of Missions except my American colleague and myself and that in the course of the review of the situation he made disparaging remarks about the United Kingdom.

3. I should be glad to know whether the Swiss have been sounded about their possible protection of British interests.

Mr. Evans

Sent 1530Z/6 June
Recd 1638Z/6 June

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En Clair

FLASH DAMASCUS TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Tel.No. 391 6 June 1967.

UNCLASSIFIED

The Syrian Government have broken diplomatic relations with the United Kingdom and United States.

Mr. Evans

Sent 1825Z/6 June
Recd 1835Z/6 June

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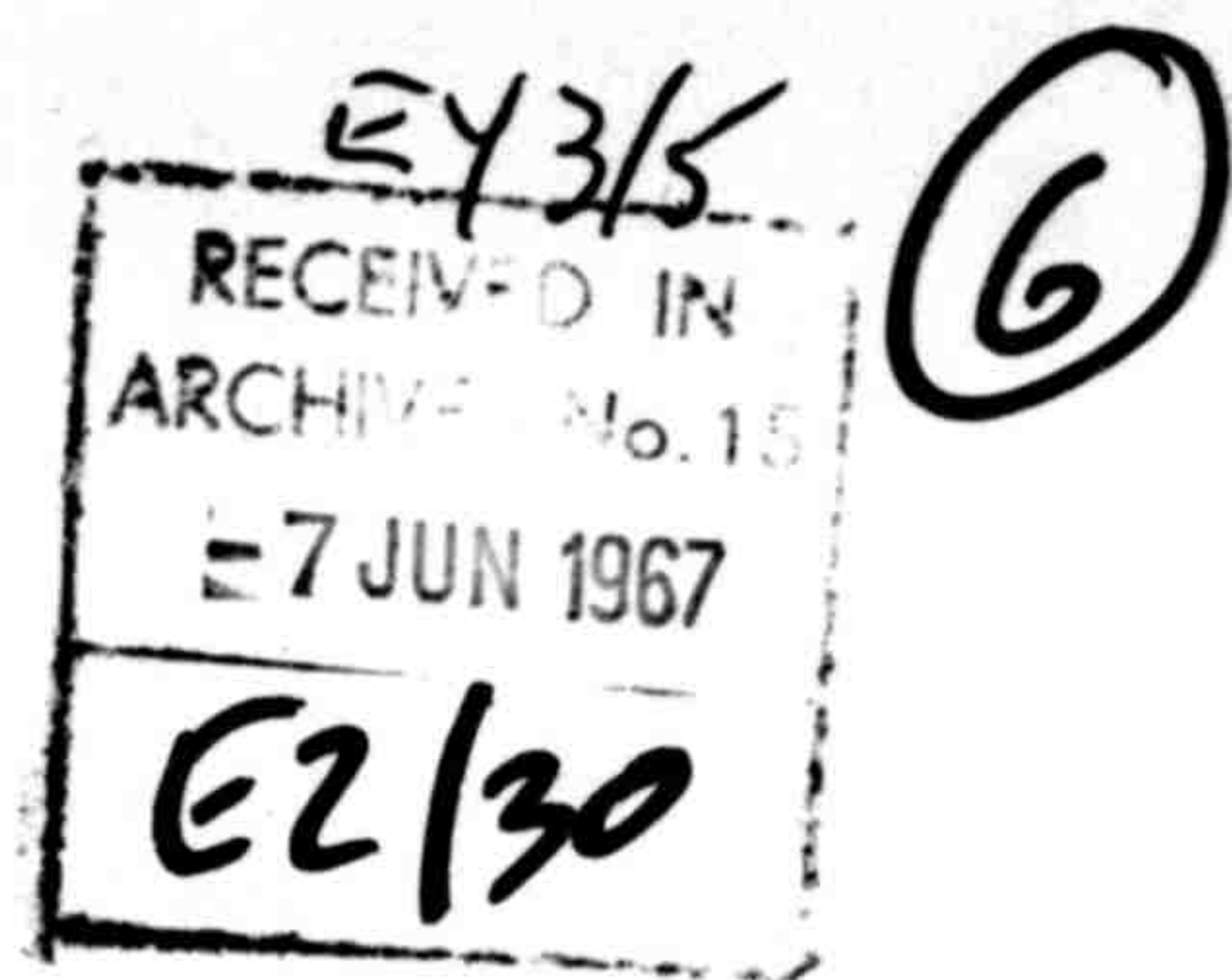
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FLASH DAMASCUS TO FOREIGN OFFICE

elno 392

6 June, 1967

CONFIDENTIAL



My telegram No. 391: Rupture of United Kingdom/Syrian Relations.

Do you wish me to enquire of the Syrian authorities whether they want to continue to receive British technical assistance?

Mr. Evans

Sent 1955Z 6 June

Recd 2015Z 6 June

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Cypher/Cat.A.

FLASH DAMASCUS TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Telno. 394 6 June, 1967.

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My telegram No. 391: Rupture of Diplomatic Relations.

The Secretary-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs sent for me at 8.15 this evening and announced the rupture.

2. He translated a manuscript communication which had been drafted by the Minister of Foreign Affairs himself. This was to the effect that bitter experience had shown that Her Majesty's Government had been responsible for all the tribulations of the Arab people and this had been confirmed by the latest aggression. As a result there was no need for continued diplomatic and consular relations between our two countries. I was therefore invited to leave within 48 hours (48 hours) together with my diplomatic, consular and technical staff (military, cultural and press). If we wished we could leave a junior member of the staff for one week to wind up affairs.

3. The Secretary-General asked which Power would protect our interests.

4. I told the Secretary-General that I could not accept the reasons given for the break and spoke on the lines of guidance telegram No. 18 of 6 June. I also told the Secretary that the wives and children of many British subjects were naturally worried and wished to leave. He assured me that the Syrian authorities would give every facility. He also said that the Protocol Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs would cooperate with my staff to facilitate our departure.

Mr. Evans Sent 2022Z 6 June.
Recd. 2121Z 6 June.

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V
CYPHER/CAT A AND BY BAG

IMMEDIATE FOREIGN OFFICE TO BERNE

TELNO. 250 6 JUNE 1967 (EASTERN)

CONFIDENTIAL.

ADDRESSED TO BERNE TELEGRAM NUMBER 250 OF 6 JUNE REPEATED FOR
INFORMATION TO WASHINGTON DAMASCUS AND SAVING TO AMMAN JERUSALEM
AND TEL AVIV.

POSSIBLE BREACH OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN H.M.G. AND SYRIA.

WHEN CONSIDERING THE POSSIBILITY OF A BREACH OF RELATIONS LAST
NOVEMBER, HER MAJESTY'S AMBASSADOR DAMASCUS, RECOMMENDED THAT WE
SHOULD INVITE THE SWISS TO LOOK AFTER OUR INTERESTS IN THE EVENT
OF A BREAK. THE PRESENT CRISIS AGAIN CARRIES WITH IT THE POSSIBILITY
OF A BREACH AND ON THIS OCCASION TOO WE CONSIDER THAT WE SHOULD
ASK THE SWISS TO ACT. WE SHOULD BE GRATEFUL, IF YOU SEE NO OBJECTION
IF YOU WOULD URGENTLY TAKE SOUNDINGS WITH THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN
AFFAIRS AND ASCERTAIN WHETHER THEY WOULD IN PRINCIPLE BE AGREEABLE
TO ACT ON OUR BEHALF.

2. PLEASE REPORT THEIR REACTION BY IMMEDIATE TELEGRAM.

SOSFA SENT 1045/6 JUNE

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Cypher/Cat A

IMMEDIATE BERNE TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Telno 79 6 June, 1967

CONFIDENTIAL



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Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 79 of
6 June
Repeated for information to:- Washington and Damascus
and Saving to:- Amman, Jerusalem and Tel Aviv.

Your telegram No. 250 of 6 June: Diplomatic relations
with Syria.

Swiss Government agree in principle subject to Syrian
concurrence.

Foreign Office please pass Washington, Damascus and
Saving to Amman, Jerusalem and Tel Aviv as my telegrams
Nos. 1, 1, 1, 1, and 1.

Sir R. Isaacson Sent 1635Z 6 June, 1967
 Recd 1655Z 6 June, 1967

[Repetition to Damascus referred for departmental
decision, repeated as requested to other posts]

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CYPHER/CAT.A. AND BY BAG

FLASH FOREIGN OFFICE TO BERNE

TELNO. 253 6 JUNE, 1967.

(EASTERN)

CONFIDENTIAL.

ADDRESSED TO BERNE TELEGRAM NUMBER 253 OF 6 JUNE REPEATED FOR
INFORMATION TO WASHINGTON DAMASCUS AND SAVING TO AMMAN JERUSALEM
TEL AVIV.

MY TELEGRAM NUMBER 250.

THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT HAVE THIS EVENING BROKEN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS
WITH THE UNITED KINGDOM (AND WITH THE UNITED STATES).

PROVIDED YOU SEE NO OBJECTION PLEASE NOW ASK THE SWISS GOVERNMENT
IF THEY WILL LOOK AFTER BRITISH INTERESTS IN SYRIA. PLEASE REPEAT
REPLY TO DAMASCUS.

SOSFA SENT 2000Z 6 JUNE.

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CYPHER/CAT. A

IMMEDIATE FOREIGN OFFICE TO STOCKHOLM

TELNO. 484

6 JUNE 1967 (EASTERN)

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RECEIVED IN
ARCHIVES No.15
- 7 JUN 1967

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ADDRESSED TO STOCKHOLM TELEGRAM NUMBER 484 OF 6 JUNE REPEATED FOR INFORMATION TO WASHINGTON BEIRUT AND BAGHDAD.

POSSIBLE BREACH OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN ARAB GOVERNMENTS AND H.M.G.

THE PRESENT SITUATION CARRIES THE POSSIBILITY THAT SOME OR ALL ARAB GOVERNMENTS WILL BREAK OFF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH H.M.G. WE CONSIDER THAT, IN THE EVENT OF A BREAK OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH US BY EITHER LEBANON OR IRAQ OR BOTH, WE SHOULD INVITE THE SWEDES TO ACT ON OUR BEHALF AS PROTECTING POWER IN BEIRUT AND BAGHDAD. SWEDEN IS NOT LOCALLY REGARDED AS IMPLICATED IN THE PRESENT STRUGGLE AND ENJOYS GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE ARABS. PROVIDED YOU SEE NO OBJECTION, WE SHALL BE GRATEFUL IF YOU WOULD URGENTLY TAKE SOUNDINGS AT WHATEVER LEVEL YOU CONSIDER APPROPRIATE TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER THE SWEDES WOULD IN PRINCIPLE BE WILLING TO DO THIS.

2. PLEASE REPORT THEIR REACTION BY IMMEDIATE TELEGRAM.

SOSFA

SENT 1115Z/6 JUNE 1967

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ARCHIVES No.15
- 7 JUN 1967
E2/30

En Clair

PRIORITY BERNE TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Telno 80 6 June 1967

UNCLASSIFIED

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 80 of 6 June
Repeated for information to Washington, Damascus
And Saving to Amman, Jerusalem, Tel Aviv.

Your telegram No. 253.

Action taken. Will telegraph as soon as we have
confirmation.

Foreign Office pass routine Washington, Damascus and
Saving to Amman, Jerusalem and Tel Aviv as my telegrams 2,2,2,2,
2, and 2.

Sir R. Isaacson

Sent 2245 6 June 1967

Recd. 2143Z 6 June 1967

[Repeated as requested]

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Consular Dept.

D.S.A.O. E.O. Dept.
Personnel Dept.

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En Clair

FLASH BEIRUT TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Telno. 541 7 June, 1967

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Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 541 of 7 June.
Repeated for information to: Nicosia.

Lebanese Radio announced at 0530 G.M.T. that the Lebanese Cabinet were considering breaking off diplomatic relations with Britain and that an announcement would be made later this morning.

2. I will report further developments and let you have my recommendations as soon as possible.

3. Meanwhile all concerned with possible measures concerning British subjects here should be brought to an appropriate state of readiness.

Sir D. Riches

Sent 0635Z 7 June
Recd. 0702Z 7 June

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En Clair

FLASH BAGHDAD TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Telno. 709 6 June 1967

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Demonstration of about 600 approached Embassy from the North at 6 p.m. local time, extra police protection was provided and police broke up demonstrators into small groups. They have now moved away.

Sir R. Beaumont

Sent 1539Z/6 June
Received 1555/6 June

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En Clair

FLASH BAGHDAD TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Telno 712 6 June, 1967

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Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 712 of 7 June,
Repeated for information to Tehran, Beirut, Amman, Washington,
and UKMIS New York.

Middle East Crisis.

I was summoned to Ministry of Foreign Affairs at approximately
0145 local time (2245 G.M.T.) and handed communication of which
following is rough translation.

"In view of the fact that events and convincing proof have
established the effective cooperation of the Governments of
the United States of America and of Great Britain in military
air operations against the Arab States and their support for
the Israeli enemy by affording protective air cover over its
territory by the use of American and British aircraft carriers
in the Mediterranean and also of their bases in the vicinity
of the battle-fields, the Government of Iraq considers that the
two above mentioned Governments have carried out effective acts
of hostility against the Arab States and their security, safety
and sovereignty. It has therefore decided to sever diplomatic
relations with the Government of the United States and the British
Government. Baghdad 6.6.67".

2. Under Secretary asked that we should contact Protocol Department
of M.F.A. in the morning to discuss details and assured us that a
reasonable period would be allowed to make necessary arrangements.

Foreign Office please pass Immediate Washington 90 and routine
UKMIS New York 9.

Sir R. Beaumont

Sent 0002Z/7 June

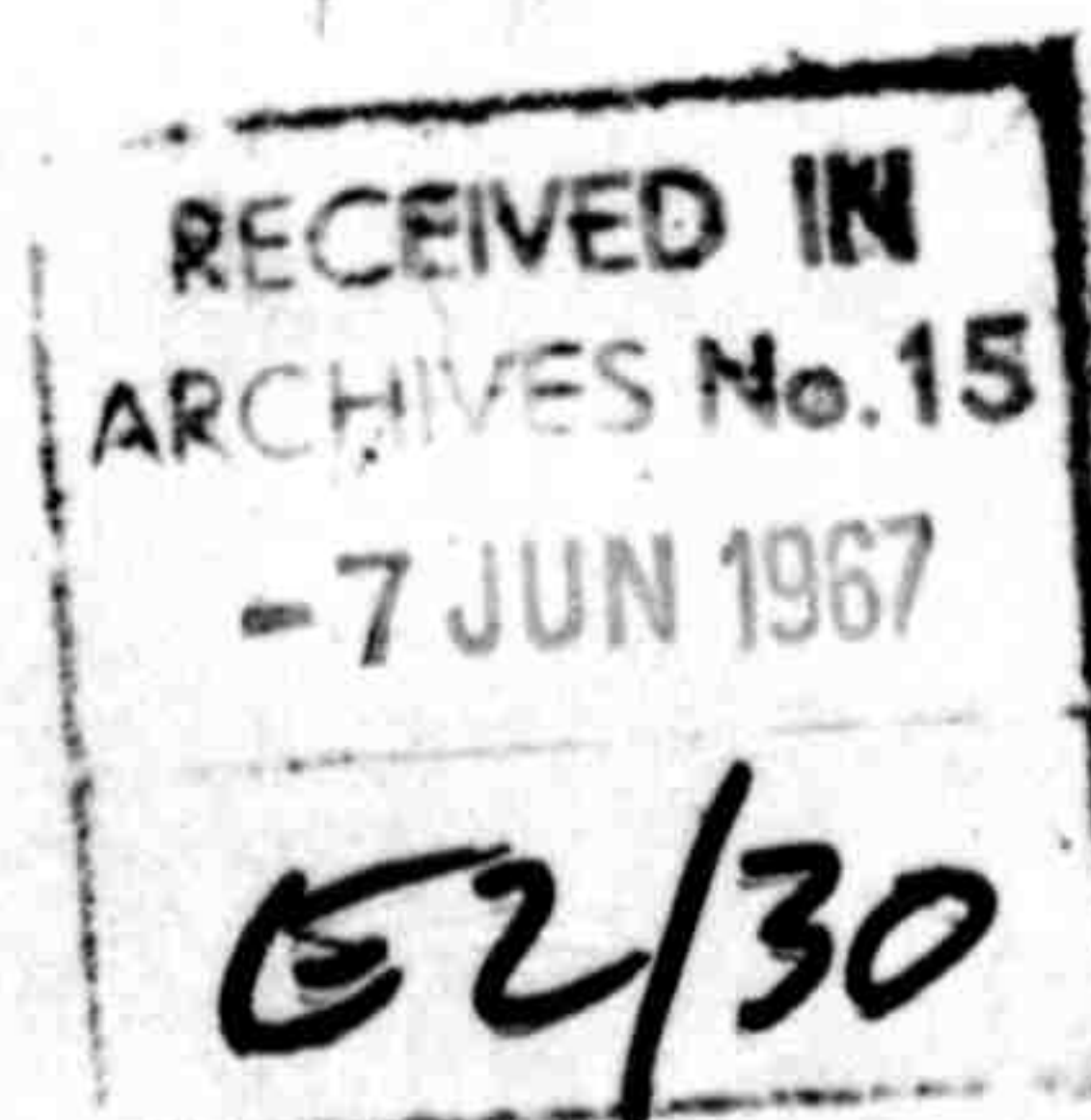
Recd 0115Z/7 June

[Repeated as requested]

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En Clair

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IMMEDIATE DAMASCUS TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Telno 395 6 June, 1967

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E2/30

My telegram No.391. Rupture of United Kingdom/Syrian Relations.

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As we have been given only 48 hours to leave Syria, please inform me urgently who is to be protecting power, see my telegram No.387.

Mr. Evans

Sent 2017Z/6 June
Recd 2109Z/6 June

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Cypher/Cat A

IMMEDIATE BAGHDAD TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Telno. 713

7 June 1967

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Addressed to F.O. telegram No. 713 of 7 June
Repeated for information to:
Tehran and Ottawa.

My immediately preceding telegram No. 659 (not to Tehran or Ottawa.)

Protecting Power.

On reflecting it would seem to be in the interests of our securing maximum latitude of action for British Interests Section which will stay behind here, if Canadian Government would agree to act as protecting Power. Canada has Ambassador resident in Tehran who is accredited here. I imagine that his staff is too small to allow him to detach a member to take over our interests. Presumably, however, Canadian Government might specially second a senior official to Mr. Malone's staff to reside in Baghdad. He could live in Embassy residence and work in Ambassador's office in Chancery.

F.O. please pass Priority Tehran 70, and H.C. Ottawa 1,

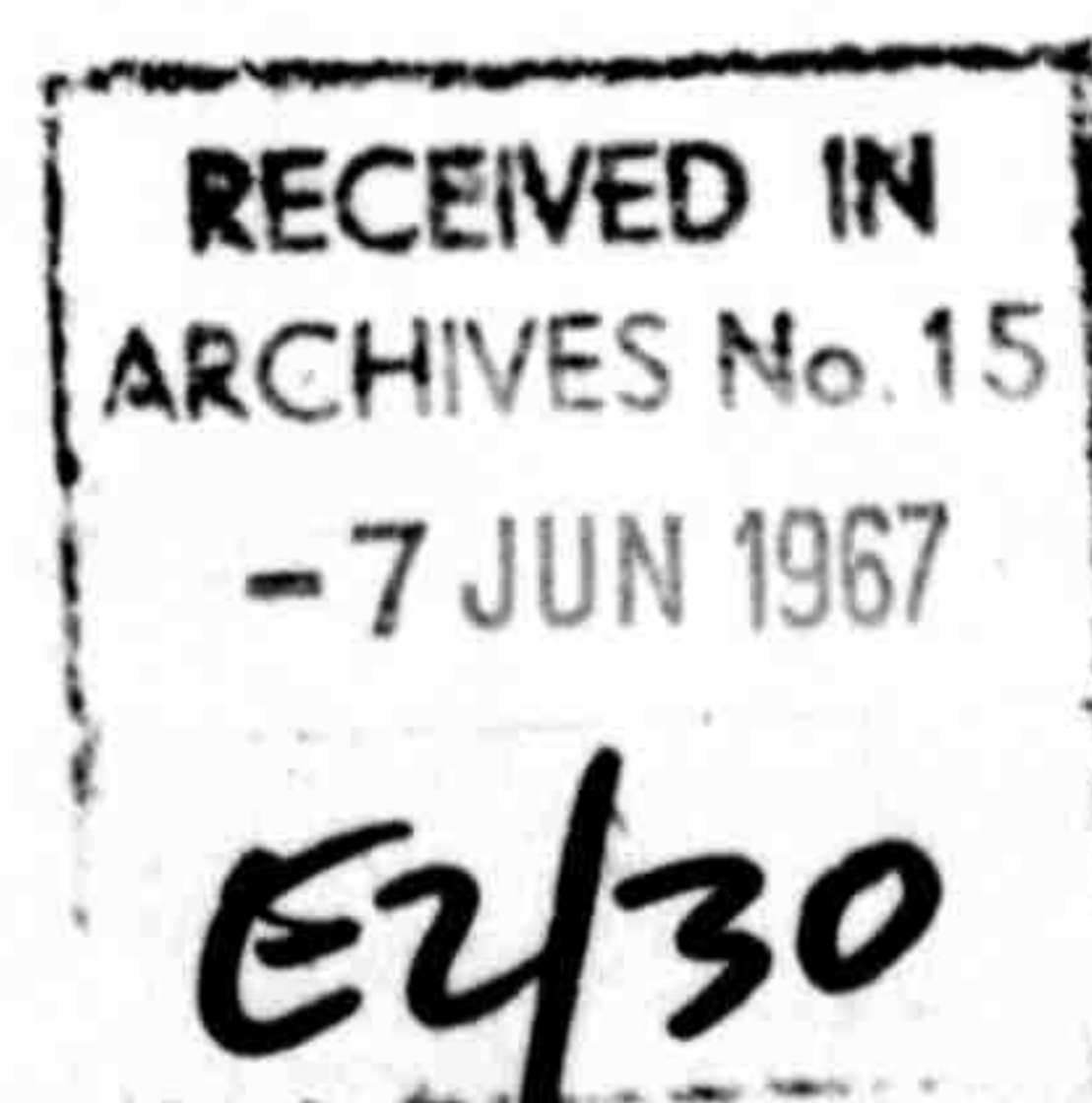
Sir R. Beaumont

Sent 0030Z 7 June
Recd 0435Z 7 June

[Repetition to Tehran referred for departmental decision, repeated as requested to other posts].

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Cypher/Cat.A.

FLASH STOCKHOLM TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Telno. 262 7 June, 1967.

CONFIDENTIAL

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.262 of 7 June.
Repeated for information to Baghdad and Beirut.

My telegram No. 260: Breach of Diplomatic Relations by
Arab Governments.

In the light of Head of Chancery's telephone conversation
with Mr. Morris, I made a formal request to the Secretary-General
this morning, following it up with a Note.

2. H.C. Belfrage again said that an answer might not be
forthcoming today. I pressed him to do his best and gave him
on personal and confidential basis such indications of the
probable attitude of the Iraqi and Lebanese Governments to trans-
ferring staff to the Swedish missions.

3. Belfrage said he might have to ask further questions.
Please therefore telegraph approximate numbers of British
residents both in the capitals and near any outlying consulates,
and if possible instruct Her Majesty's Representatives concerned
similarly to inform their Swedish colleagues, who I assume the
M.F.A. here are consulting.

Foreign Office pass Baghdad 2 and Beirut 2.

✓ 16/6

Sir A. Ross Sent 1053Z 7 June.
Recd.1059Z 7 June.

[Repeated as requested]

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Cypher/Cat A

FLASH BERNE TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Telno. 81 7 June, 1967

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- 7 JUN 1967

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Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 81 of 7 June.
Repeated for information to: Damascus

Your telegram No. 253: British Interests in Syria.

Formal confirmation will not be possible until the Federal Council has met on 9 June. The Syrian Government will then be approached. Meanwhile the Swiss Ambassador in Damascus is being instructed to discuss arrangements in confidence with his British colleague.

2. The Political Department would be grateful for early information on:

- (a) number of British subjects in Syria;
- (b) approximate value of British trade;
- (c) approximate value of British material interests.

I am providing (b) from United Kingdom Trade Statistics but should be grateful for information on (a) and if possible (c)

Foreign Office pass Immediate Damascus as my telegram 3.

Sir R. Isaacson

Sent 1105Z 7 June
Recd. 1108Z 7 June

[Repeated "Flash" En Clair to Damascus at
Department's request]

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6

SECRET

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Cypher/Cat A

IMMEDIATE AMMAN TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Telno 561 7 June, 1967

SECRET

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 561 of 7 June.
Repeated for information to: Washington.

Jordan Diplomatic Relations.

I learned tonight that at a Jordan Cabinet Meeting on 6 June the question of breaking off relations with the United States and ourselves, as a gesture of Arab solidarity, was discussed.

2. My informant, the Director General of Jordan General Intelligence, told me that the Prime Minister was in favour of a break but that he himself spoke out strongly against it, arguing that Jordan depended on the West for economic aid and military equipment. Other Arab countries such as Egypt, Syria and Algeria had nothing to lose, being Eastern oriented.

3. No break appears to be contemplated for the moment although Director General implied that the Prime Minister had not entirely abandoned the idea.

Foreign Office pass Immediate Washington No. 88.

Mr. Adams

Sent 0453Z 7 June

Recd 0835Z 7 June

[Repeated as requested].

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21

IMMEDIATE FOREIGN OFFICE TO ANKARA

TELNO. 920

6 JUNE, 1967

(EASTERN)

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ADDRESSED TO ANKARA TELEGRAM NUMBER 920 OF 6 JUNE 1967
REPEATED FOR INFORMATION TO WASHINGTON, AMMAN, JERUSALEM AND
TEL AVIV. AND SAVING TO DAMASCUS AND BERNE.

POSSIBLE BREACH OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN H.M.G.
AND THE GOVERNMENT OF JORDAN.

WE CONSIDER THAT, IN THE EVENT OF A BREACH OF DIPLOMATIC
RELATIONS BETWEEN US AND JORDAN, WE SHOULD INVITE THE TURKS TO
ACT ON OUR BEHALF AS PROTECTING POWER BOTH IN AMMAN AND JERUSALEM.
GIVEN TURKEY'S GENERALLY GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE ARAB STATES
AND HER DETACHMENT FROM THE PRESENT CRISIS, SHE WOULD
SEEM WELL PLACED TO LOOK AFTER OUR INTERESTS EFFECTIVELY IN
THE EVENT OF A BREAK. PROVIDED YOU SEE NO OBJECTION, WE SHOULD
BE GRATEFUL IF YOU WOULD URGENTLY TAKE SOUNDINGS AT WHATEVER
LEVEL YOU CONSIDER APPROPRIATE IN THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT
TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER THEY WOULD IN PRINCIPLE BE WILLING TO DO
THIS.

2. PLEASE REPORT THEIR REACTION BY IMMEDIATE TELEGRAM.

SOSFA SENT 1131Z 6 JUNE

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Original on ES 3/9.

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En Clair

F L A S H FOREIGN OFFICE TO DAMASCUS

elno. 912

7 June 1967 (Eastern)

7

UNCLASSIFIED

Addressed to Damascus telegram No. 912 of 7 June
Repeated for information to Berne.

Your telegram No. 394 (not to Berne).

Rupture of Diplomatic Relations: Protection of Interests.

Berne Embassy informed by telephone of 48 hour point.
They do not expect requirement for formal approach of Federal
Council, mentioned in a Flash telegram on its way to us and
you, to present difficulty of substance. Your Swiss colleague
is receiving instructions.

SOSFA

Sent 1110Z/7 June 1967

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42 HOURS No.15
8 JUN 1967
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CONFIDENTIAL

Cypher/Cat A

IMMEDIATE FOREIGN OFFICE TO STOCKHOLM

TELNO. 487 7 JUNE 1967 (E.)

CONFIDENTIAL.

ADDRESSED TO STOCKHOLM TELEGRAM NUMBER 487 OF 7 JUNE REPEATED
FOR INFORMATION TO BAGHDAD BEIRUT.

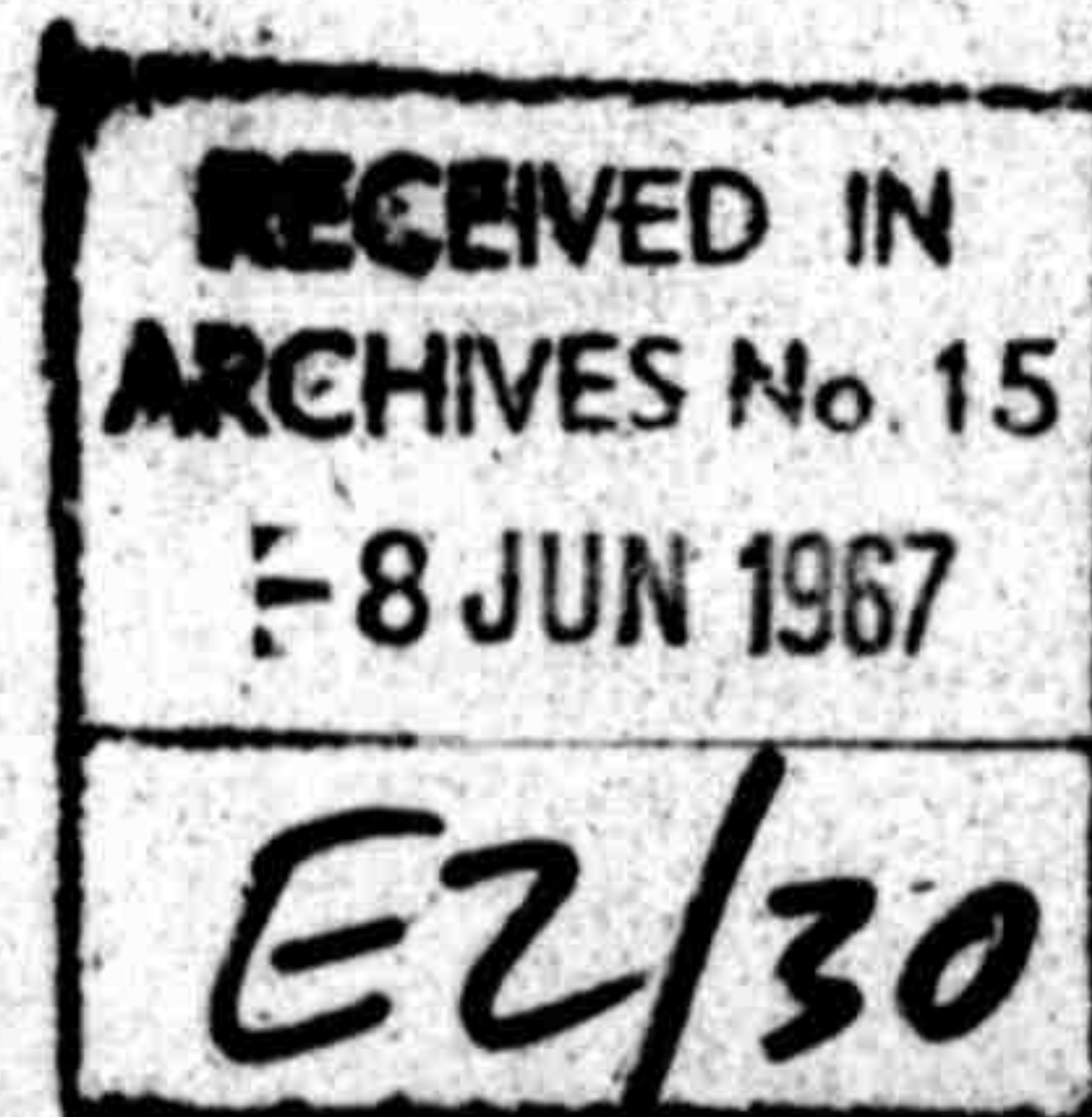
DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH IRAQ AND LEBANON.

PLEASE NOW PUT FIRM REQUEST TO SWEDISH GOVERNMENT TO LOOK AFTER
BRITISH INTERESTS IN IRAQ, WHERE RELATIONS HAVE NOW BEEN BROKEN
OFF, AND IN LEBANON IF THIS HAPPENS. THIS CONFIRMS TELEPHONE
CONVERSATION HEAD OF EASTERN DEPARTMENT/HEAD OF CHANCERY THIS
MORNING.

2. PLEASE REPEAT REPLY TO BAGHDAD AND BEIRUT, WHERE OUR
AMBASSADORS WILL WISH TO CONSULT WITH THEIR SWEDISH COLLEAGUES.

SOSFA SENT 1214/7 JUNE

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En Clair

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IMMEDIATE BEIRUT TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Telno. 551 7 June 1967

UNCLASSIFIED



E

My telegram No. 543. Diplomatic Relations.

Neither I nor my United States colleague have so far heard any more (1115 hours GMT).

Sir D. Riches

Sent 1159Z/7 June

Received 1242Z/7 June

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FLASH BERNE TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Telno. 83

UNCLASSIFIED

RECEIVED IN
ARCHIVES No. 157 June 1967
- JUN 1967
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Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 83 of 7 June
Repeated for information to Damascus

My telegram No. 81: British Interests in Syria.

Special instrument about which Evans spoke to Rich on the telephone has been signed by the President of the Confederation. Federal Political Department are now instructing Swiss Ambassador in Damascus to approach Syrian Government.

F.O. pass Flash Damascus No. 4.

Sir R. Isaacson

Sent 1840/7 June 1967
Recd 1630Z/7 June 1967

[Repeated as requested]

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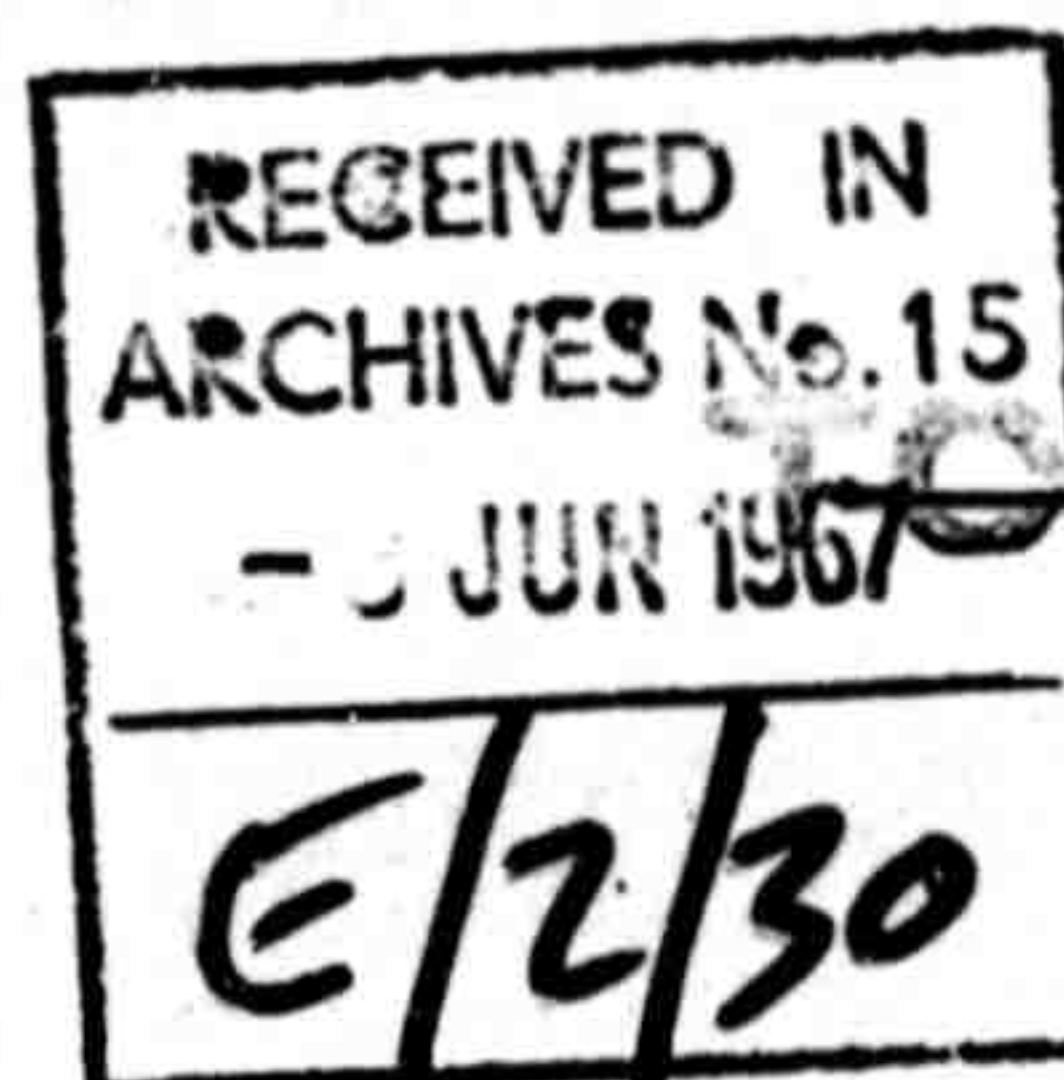
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IMMEDIATE BEIRUT TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Telno 556 7 June, 1967

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26

18

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 556 of 7 June.
Repeated for information to: Stockholm

Stockholm telegrams Nos. 260 and 262 to you: Possible breach of Diplomatic Relations.

Magnitude of task here would depend entirely on whether Lebanese Government allowed a "British Interests" Section of the Embassy to remain. If so task of protecting power would be largely limited to providing Diplomatic cover. If no British staff could remain the task of protecting and evacuating some thousands of British subjects as well as of safeguarding large amounts of British property scattered in many Embassy flats would be considerable.

2. Our original recommendation of Swedes was made when we thought that all powers likely to join in Declaration about the Gulf of Aqaba would have to be excluded. Now that Britain and the United States seem to be the only targets, Australia (admittedly a newly established Embassy), Canada (admittedly likely to tempt the Lebanese to model themselves on Egyptian attitude in Cairo) and Italy are other possibilities.

3. After nearly 12 hours there has still been no notification from the Lebanese Government of their intentions.

Foreign Office pass Stockholm No. 1.

Sir D. Riches

Sent 1830Z 7 June

Recd 1922Z 7 June

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REPEATED AS REQUESTED

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FLASH BEIRUT TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Telno. 557 7 June 1967

UNCLASSIFIED

RECEIVED IN ARCHIVES No. 15 - JUN 1967 E2/30

24

E

My telegram No. 551.

Neither I nor my United States colleague have so far heard any more (1650 GMT).

Sir D. Riches

Sent 1715Z/7 June
Received 1727Z/7 June

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Enter

(28)

Mr. Brenchley

Sub. Brenchley

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS: PROTECTING POWER

(39)

(15)

Stockholm telegram No. 260, Baghdad telegram No. 712 and Beirut telegram No. 541.

2. Denys Brown in the Embassy at Stockholm telephoned this morning to ask whether in the light of the latest information we wished them to put a firm request to the Swedes to take over our interests in Beirut and Baghdad.

3. I said that they should do so. If relations with Lebanon were broken, I was hopeful that the breach would be of a nominal character involving the withdrawal of the Ambassador only, or little more. The Iraqis had said that a reasonable period would be allowed to make our arrangements, and I hoped that we would be able to leave adequate staff behind there; but one could not be as hopeful as in the case of Lebanon.

W. Morris

(W. Morris)
7 June, 1967.

Copies to: Mr. George Thomson
Mr. Rodgers
P.U.S.
Sir D. Allen
Mr. Rose
Mr. Speares
Mr. Fearnley
Mr. Moberly
Mr. Rich
Mr. Saunders
Mr. Montgomery

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TFB 7/6

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Mr. Morris

IRAQ'S RUPTURE OF DIPLOMATIC
RELATIONS: PROTECTING POWER

Baghdad telegram No. 713⁸ (Flag A) contains the suggestion that we should ask the Canadian Government to appoint a Charge d'Affaires in Baghdad (where at present they have no one) in order to look after our interests. They have an Ambassador but he resides at Tehran.

2. This does not seem to be a good idea. In particular:

- (a) it is doubtful whether it would appeal to the Canadians and even more doubtful whether they would have anyone available;
- (b) it is doubtful whether the Iraqis would agree;
- (c) we could seriously offend the Swedes, whom H.M. Ambassador at Stockholm has now officially approached;
- (d) to pursue the idea would be bound to take up considerable time and we do not know how long Sir R. Beaumont will be given to withdraw.

3. I have spoken to H.M. Ambassador at Stockholm on the telephone, who considers that it would be a mistake to try to start changing horses at this stage.

--- 4. I submit a draft telegram.

Mr. Brueckley

J.R. Rich

(J.R. Rich)
7 June. 1967.

I agree.

Whomis

7.6.67

Tel to issue.

TFB 7/6

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E2/30

Ry. Jk 26

Orig on EQ 3/15.

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Orig on EJ 3/9

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En Clair

IMMEDIATE ANKARA TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Telno 689 7 June, 1967

UNCLASSIFIED

21

My telegram No. 685 and your 920. [Rupture of Diplomatic Relations].

Turkish Government accepts.

Sir R. Allen

Sent 1812Z 7 June

Recd 1848Z 7 June

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En Clair

IMMEDIATE BEIRUT TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Telno. 558 7 June 1967

UNCLASSIFIED



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Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 558 of 7 June
Repeated for information to Nicosia, Washington and Stockholm.

My telegram No. 557.

Beirut Radio has announced a decision by the Cabinet to request the withdrawal of the United States and British Ambassadors and to withdraw their own Ambassadors from Washington and London. No time limit has been mentioned and there was no suggestion that diplomatic relations as such should be broken.

2. We have received no (repeat no) notification from Ministry of Foreign Affairs and shall naturally take no action unless and until we do.

Sir D. Riches

Sent 2100Z/7 June

Received 2119Z/7 June

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(32)

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CYPHER/CAT A

FLASH FOREIGN OFFICE TO BEIRUT

TELNO. 1391 7 JUNE 1967 (EASTERN)

(13)

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ADDRESSED TO BEIRUT TELEGRAM NUMBER 1391 OF 7 JUNE REPEATED FOR INFORMATION TO WASHINGTON.

MY TELEGRAM NUMBER 541: DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS.

UNLESS YOU SEE STRONG OBJECTION, YOU SHOULD SPEAK URGENTLY TO THE PRESIDENT OR PRIME MINISTER AND URGE HIM THAT THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT SHOULD STAY ITS HAND.

2. VARIOUS ARAB GOVERNMENTS HAVE BEEN LED TO BREAK DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE U.S. AND BRITAIN AND INTERFERE WITH OIL SUPPLIES ON THE BASIS OF INFORMATION ABOUT INTERVENTION IN THE RECENT FIGHTING WHICH IS KNOWN TO THE WHOLE WORLD OUTSIDE TO BE COMPLETELY FALSE AND WHICH EVEN THE RUSSIANS HAVE NOT THOUGHT IT EXPEDIENT TO USE IN THEIR PROPAGANDA.

3. IT SHOULD NOW BE POSSIBLE FOR THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT AND ALL OTHER ARABS TO FORM A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE DESPERATE EFFORTS THAT WERE BEING MADE LAST WEEK BY THE BRITISH AND U.S. GOVERNMENTS TO AVOID THE CATASTROPHE WHICH NASSER'S MEGALOMANIA AND THE CYNICAL OPPORTUNISM OF THE RUSSIANS HAS NOW LED THEM.

4. INSTEAD OF ALLOWING THEMSELVES TO BE CARRIED FURTHER ALONG THIS SELF-DESTRUCTIVE COURSE THEY SHOULD BE CONSIDERING WHAT COULD BE DONE TO RESTORE SANITY AND SALVAGE SOMETHING FROM THE WRECKAGE.

5. LEBANON'S TRADITIONAL ROLE AS THE VOICE OF MODERATION AND SANITY IN THE ARAB WORLD GIVES HER AN ESPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY AT THIS TIME.

6. IF THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT HAVE ALREADY TAKEN THE DECISION TO CUT DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS, YOU SHOULD NEVERTHELESS CONVEY THESE THOUGHTS THROUGH WHATEVER CHANNELS YOU THINK MOST SUITABLE.

SOSFA SENT 1314/7 JUNE

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IMMEDIATE BAGHDAD TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Telno. 728

7 June 1967

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- 8 JUN 1967

E 2/30

My telegram No. 712: Rupture of Relations.

On my instructions Head of Chancery called on Protocol Department M.F.A. this morning on basis of paragraph 2 of my telegram under reference. It soon became evident that Protocol Department were without any precise views or instructions. Head of Chancery, having again reiterated strongly that rupture was based on entirely false information, then offered to give Director of Protocol a paper of "our suggestions and requirements" on this subject. This is now being drafted roughly on lines put forward for your approbation in my telegram No. 722.

Sir R. Beaumont

Sent 1500Z 7 June
Recd 0816Z 8 June

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ARCHIVES No 15
-8 JUN 1967
E2/30

Cypher/Cat A

IMMEDIATE BAGHDAD TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Tel. No. 722

7 June, 1967

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Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 722 of 7 June.
Repeated for information Saving Tehran.

Rupture of diplomatic relations.

I should be grateful for your guidance and instructions
on the following points.

- (i) It is our intention to "play it long" about my own
departure and that of Attachés, etc..
- (ii) It is our intention to play for the maximum stay-behind
group in the British Interests Section. For this I would
probably threaten reciprocity or worse to the Iraqi
Ministry of Foreign Affairs in connexion with Iraqi
personnel in London. Are there any Iraqis you would
particularly like removed, e.g.
 - (a) Military and Air Attaché staffs on the assumption
that we shall have to withdraw our own.
 - (b) Removal of Iraqi Press Attaché: In the circumstances
I think we can sacrifice Tomkinson who is absent but
might require the title of Information Officers for
Walker, Hancock, Gore-Booth, though Walker might be
designated Superintending Consul if Vincent is Head
of Section and Commercial Counsellor.
- (iii) We shall go for maintenance of D.W.S.
- (iv) Consulate-General in Basra will be maintained.
- (v) British Council activities will be maintained though it
may be necessary to incorporate British Council
representative and one or two others in British Interests
Section.
- (vi) British Council should likewise aim at keeping up British
personnel in Baghdad University in term starting
mid-September.
- (vii) We should maintain a modest quota of technical assistance.

2. What is the help status of personnel of British Interests
/Section

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Baghdad telegram No. 722 to Foreign Office

- 2 -

Section likely to be in respect of

(a) Immunity from arrest and imprisonment.

(b) Customs franchise?

Foreign Office please pass Saving Tehran 63.

Sir R. Beaumont

Sent 1500Z/7 June

Recd. 0940Z/8 June

[Repeated as requested]

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IMMEDIATE BEIRUT TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Telno. 563

8 June 1967



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Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 563 of 8 June
Repeated for information to Amman, Jedda, Kuwait, Tunis,
Rabat, Bahrain, Nicosia and Washington.

Anglo-Lebanese Relations.

Following last night's announcement of the decision of the Council of Ministers, the Lebanese Prime Minister, as Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs, summoned me today to say that, in view of the developments of the situation in the Arab world and of the general circumstances, the Lebanese Government regretted that they must ask for my withdrawal within three days. I said that I would communicate this decision to my Government, and protested that in view of the fact that I would be leaving as he knew for good, I needed more time to settle my affairs. The Prime Minister insisted that the period of three days was also a Cabinet decision but eventually agreed to give me until Monday, 12 June.

2. The Prime Minister has made a similar communication to the American Ambassador (who hopes to go tomorrow) and said that the Lebanese Ambassadors in London and Washington were going to be withdrawn.

3. I strongly recommend that we accept without demur this decision of the Lebanese Government. Particularly in the light of the almost universal belief in Anglo-American intervention in the war and of the virulent propaganda directed towards Palestinians here from Cairo, the Lebanese could not have done less and might well have gone further.

4. I took the opportunity to impress on the Prime Minister the need for public security and the protection of British subjects in the Lebanon. He was confident that security would be well maintained. I also took the opportunity to rub home the falseness of the allegation that we had intervened in the fighting, and the efforts we and the Americans had made to avert the catastrophe which had now fallen on the Arabs. He did not expressly dispute these points but rather wearily vented the lines that 100 million Arabs cannot be wrong and would never give up and that 700 million Chinese are coming.

F.O. pass Jedda 787[sic] Kuwait 33[sic] Tunis 2,
Rabat 4, Bahrain 171, Nicosia 69 and Washington 16.

Sent 1046Z/8 June 1967

Sir D. Riches

Recd 1320Z/8 June 1967

[Repetition to Kuwait and Tunis referred for
departmental decision, repeated as requested to other posts]
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En Clair

FLASH BAGHDAD TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Tel. No. 747

8 June, 1967

UNCLASSIFIED



Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 747 of 8 June.
Repeated for information Priority to Tehran.

I was asked by the Head of Protocol to call at 2100 GMT this evening. He gave me the following communication.

In execution of the decision of the Iraqi Republic to sever diplomatic relations with the United Kingdom, it has been decided as follows.

- (1) The British Ambassador shall leave Iraqi territory within 48 hours.
- (2) The British Consul-General in Basra and the British Consul in Baghdad shall leave the territory of the Iraqi Republic in 48 hours.
- (3) The remaining members of the British Embassy and the members of the Consulate-General in Basra and the members of the Consulate in Baghdad shall leave within seven days.
- (4) The Embassy and the Consulate-General in Basra and the Consulate in Baghdad shall be closed and placed under guard within a period not exceeding seven days.
- (5) The Institutes and Centres of the British Council and Centre of Studies and Press Section in the Iraqi Republic shall be closed and their personnel shall leave Iraq within ten days.

See my immediately following telegram (to Foreign Office only).

Sir R. Beaumont

Sent 2150Z/8 June
Recd. 2252Z/8 June

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IMMEDIATE FOREIGN OFFICE TO BAGHDAD

TELNO. 1128 7 JUNE 1967 (EASTERN)

17

CONFIDENTIAL.

ADDRESSED TO BAGHDAD TELEGRAM NO 1128 OF 7 JUNE REPEATED FOR INFORMATION TO TEHRAN OTTAWA AND STOCKHOLM.

YOUR TELEGRAM NO 713 (NOT TO STOCKHOLM): PROTECTING POWERS.

WE VERY MUCH DOUBT WHETHER THE CANADIANS WOULD BE AGREEABLE TO ARRANGEMENT YOU SUGGEST OR WOULD HAVE SUITABLE PERSON AVAILABLE WHOM THEY COULD APPOINT AS RESIDENT CHARGE D-AFFAIRES TO LOOK AFTER OUR INTERESTS.

2. NOW THAT H.M. AMBASSADOR STOCKHOLM HAS OFFICIALLY APPROACHED THE SWEDISH GOVERNMENT (STOCKHOLM TELNO.262) WE THINK IT WOULD BE A MISTAKE TO CHANGE HORSES, AND ROSS HAS CONFIRMED THIS VIEW BY TELEPHONE.

3. I PRESUME THAT YOU ARE IN TOUCH WITH YOUR SWEDISH COLLEAGUE, AND THAT YOU WILL SEE WHETHER IT IS POSSIBLE TO OBTAIN IRAQI AGREEMENT TO LEAVE SOME OF YOUR STAFF BEHIND AS BRITISH INTERESTS SECTION.

4. WE HAVE INFORMED STOCKHOLM THAT BRITISH RESIDENTS NUMBER APPROXIMATELY 1,500, SUBJECT TO REDUCTION AS A RESULT OF FURTHER EVACUATION.

SOSFA SENT 2152/7 JUNE

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IMMEDIATE FOREIGN OFFICE TO BERNE

Telno 259 7 June, 1967 (EP)

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19

Your telegram No.81: British Interests in Syria.

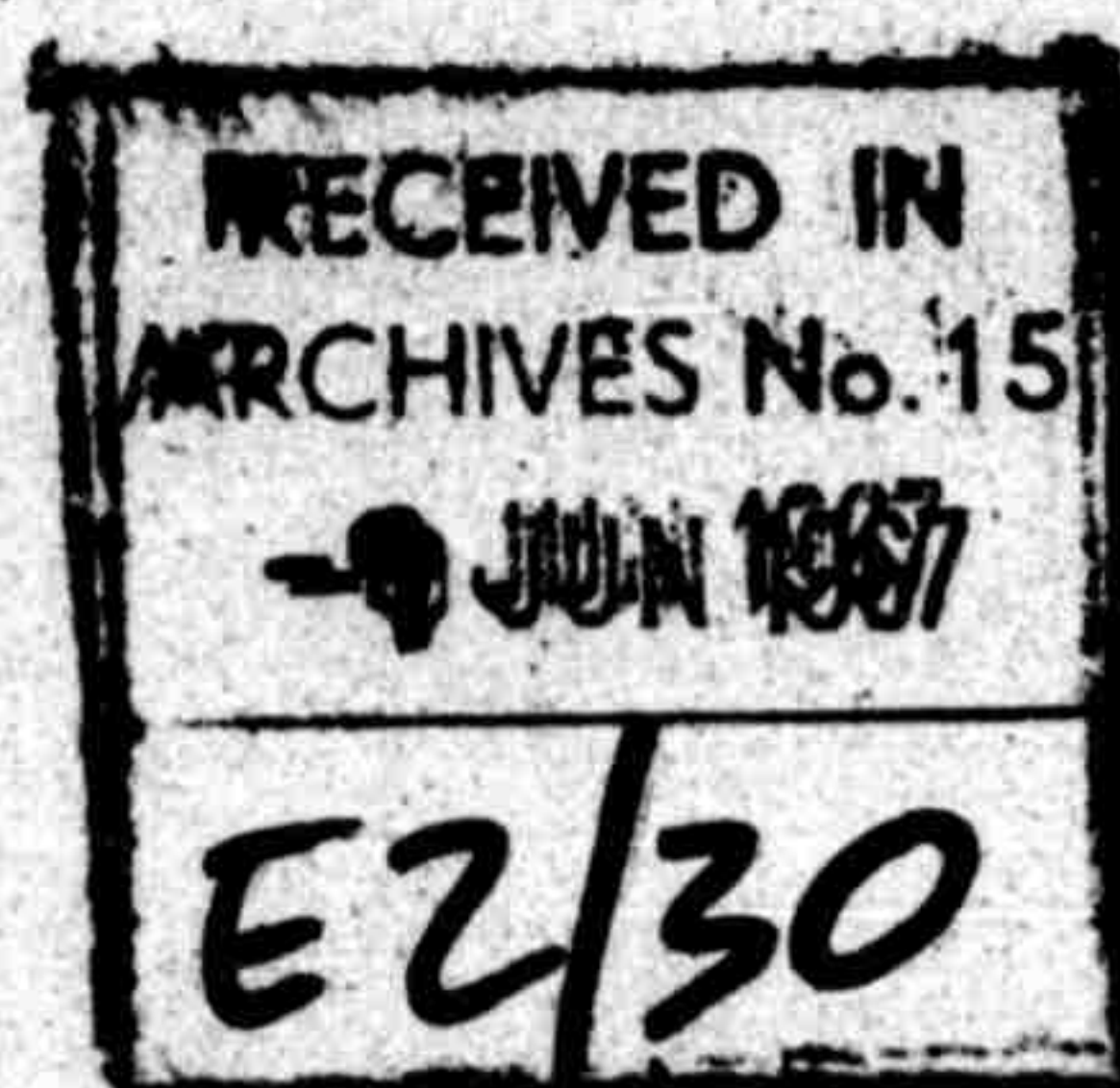
British subjects in Syria believed between 240 and 350, subject to further reductions as people leave.

2. Primary material interest pipelines and installations of Iraq Petroleum Company (I.P.C.) valued £63.3 million. I.P.C. is British registered, but jointly owned by British, French, American and Anglo-Dutch companies.

No other major material interests.

SOSFA Sent 2001Z/7 June

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PRIORITY BERNE TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Telno. 86

8 June 1967

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Addressed to F.O. telegram No. 86 of 8 June
Repeated for information to:
Damascus (Immediate)

My telegram No. 83 of 7 June: British Interests.

Swiss have not yet had a reply, but say that this may be due to trouble with communications.

F.O. pass Damascus as my telegram No. 1.

Sir R. Isaacson

Sent 1710Z 8 June

Recd 1710Z 8 June

[Repeated as requested]

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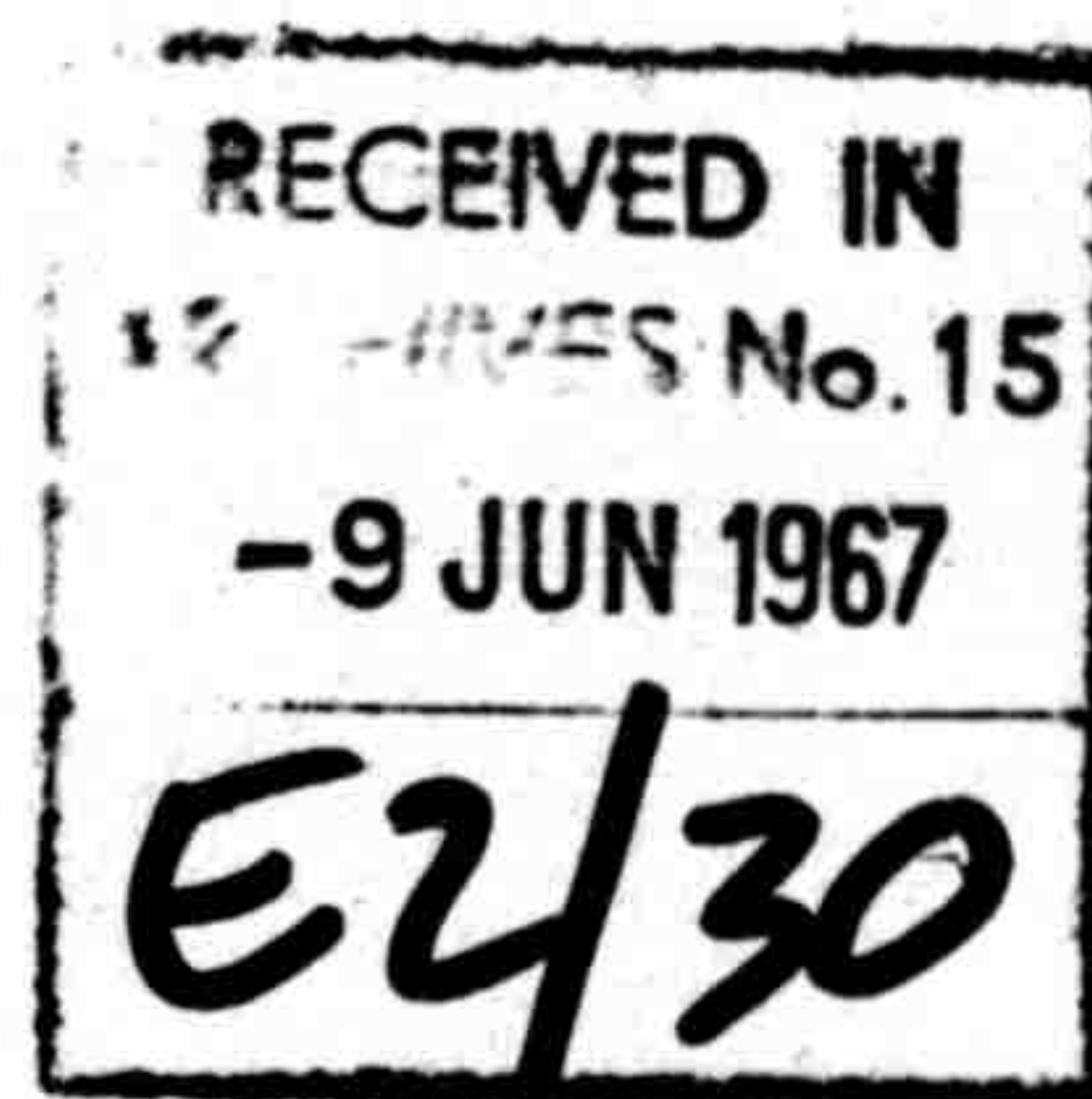
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IMMEDIATE BEIRUT TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Tel. No. 565

8 June, 1967

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Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 565 of 8 June.
Repeated for information to DA Amman, DA Tel Aviv and JIG Cyprus.

MA 72-981130B.

From DA.

Lebanese have required Her Britannic Majesty's Ambassador
to leave/no further demand on Embassy staff so DA remains at
post.

Foreign Office pass MOD DI 4C 22C and Tel Aviv 31.

MOD pass JIG Cyprus.

Sir D. Riches

Sent 1045Z/8 June
Recd. 1227Z/8 June

[Repetition to Tel Aviv referred for Departmental
decision, repeated as requested to other Posts]

[Sent to D.C.C.]

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PRIORITY BEIRUT TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Tel. No. 574

8 June, 1967

CONFIDENTIAL

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 574 of 8 June.
Repeated for information to Berne.

From Walker, ex-Damascus.

Protecting Power.

Her Majesty's Ambassador was unable before leaving Damascus to contact Swiss Chargé d'Affaires and latter, whom I saw very briefly this morning, showed concern about the correct form for the handover in these circumstances.

2. He said he had earlier this morning officially requested Syrian agreement to Switzerland's acting as Protecting Power.

Foreign Office pass Priority Berne 1.

Sir D. Riches

Sent 1444Z/8 June
Recd. 1644Z/8 June

[Repeated as requested]

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42

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Cypher/Cat A

PRIORITY FOREIGN OFFICE TO AMMAN

Orig. on ES 3/9

Telno. 1082 10 June 1967 (Eastern)

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Arab/Israel

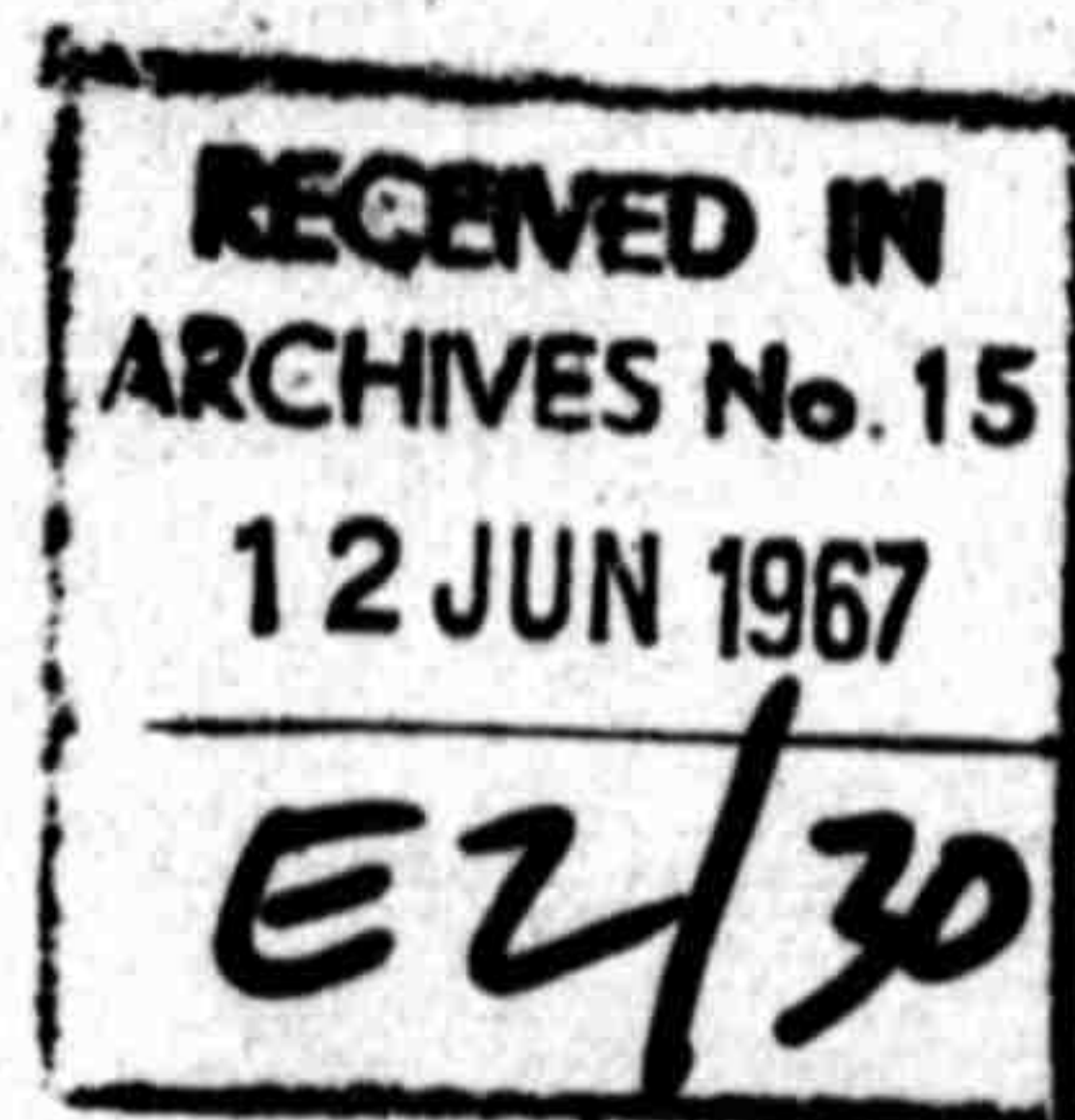
Please report any indication of Jordanian intentions on breach of diplomatic relations.

2. If subject is raised with you, you should point out that the reason given for breaking relations by Syrians and Iraqis was our alleged intervention in the fighting. A break by Jordan would therefore be a reaffirmation of accusations which Jordanians now know to be unfounded.

SOSFA Sent 1852/10 June

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CHENS TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Telno. 663 9 June 1967

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IN
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15 JUN 1967
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Grateful for guidance on what is now exact state of our diplomatic relations with the Arab States.

Sir R. Murray

Sent 1730Z/9 June
Received 2307Z/9 June

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- N.E.A.D.
- Arabian Dept.
- Eastern Dept.
- J.I.P.G.D.
- Central Dept.
- News Dept.

See general guidance
to posts
✓ 16/6

RPPPP

(1055/79/67)

RESTRICTED



BRITISH EMBASSY,

(44)

TOKYO.

16 JUNE 1967

RECEIVED IN

ARCH 1967

27 JUN 1967

E2/30

Don Lee,

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH MIDDLE
EASTERN COUNTRIES

Strictly speaking this enquiry should I suppose be addressed to one of the Middle Eastern Departments; I imagine however that they are being run off their feet at the moment so I wondered whether you would be so kind as to help. Our problem is, that being dependent on probably inadequate reports in the press, we are not entirely clear with which countries in the Middle East we are now in relations and which we are not. So far as we can gather we do not now have relations with Algeria, the United Arab Republic, the Sudan, the Yemen, Syria and Iraq, while our Ambassador has been withdrawn from the Lebanon. I wonder if you could put us right should the list be incomplete or inaccurate? A brief telegram would be helpful.

Yours Ever

Dick

(R. H. Ellingworth)

L. Pickles, Esq.,
Far Eastern Department.

RESTRICTED

TOP COPY

45

RESTRICTED

RECEIVED IN	
ARCHIVES	
27 JUN 1967	
F-2	30

Q HER/CAT A

FOREIGN OFFICE TO TOKYO

TELNO 592 23 JUNE, 1967 (F)

RESTRICTED.

ELLINGWORTH'S LETTER 1055/79/67 OF 16 JUNE.

WE HAVE NO RELATIONS WITH IRAQ, SYRIA AND YEMEN. RELATIONS WITH ALGERIA AND THE U.A.R. REMAIN BROKEN (SINCE DECEMBER 1965) BUT WE RETAIN BRITISH STAFF IN THE BRITISH INTERESTS SECTION OF THE SWISS EMBASSY IN ALGIERS AND THE CANADIAN EMBASSY IN CAIRO. THE SUDAN HAS CALLED FOR A BREAK IN RELATIONS BUT WE HOPE TO RETAIN A BRITISH INTERESTS SECTION IN THE EMBASSY OF THE PROTECTING POWER. OUR AMBASSADOR AT BEIRUT WAS WITHDRAWN AT LEBANESE REQUEST BUT OTHERWISE THE EMBASSY THERE IS FUNCTIONING NORMALLY.

SOSFA SENT 1040Z 24 JUNE, 1967

FILES
F.E.D.
N.E.A.D.
EASTERN DEPT

RESTRICTED

Registry No.
DEPARTMENT

F

* Date and time (G.M.T.) telegram should
reach addressee(s)

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

PRIORITY MARKINGS

~~Top Secret~~
~~Secret~~
~~Confidential~~
Restricted

~~Immediate~~
Priority
Routine

(Date)

Despatched

24/6
CYPHER

PRIVACY MARKING

~~In Confidence~~

~~En Clair.~~
Code
Cypher

[Security classification
—if any]

RESTRICTED

[Privacy marking
—if any]

[Codeword—if any]

Draft Telegram to:—

No. TOKYO
592

(Date) 23/6

And to:—

Addressed to

telegram No. (date)

And to

repeated for information to

Saving to

Repeat to:—

Saving to:—

Distribution:—

Files

NEAD

Eastern Dpt.

FED

Copies to:—

Ellingworth's letter 1055/79/67 of 16 June.

We have no relations with Iraq, Syria and
Yemen. Relations with Algeria and the UAR ~~are~~ ^{remain}
(since December 1965)
~~technically~~ broken but we retain British staff in the
British Interests Section of the Swiss Embassy in
Algiers and the Canadian Embassy in Cairo. The Sudan
has called for a break in relations but we hope to
retain a British Interests Section in the Embassy of
the Protecting Power. Our Ambassador at Beirut was
withdrawn at Lebanese request but otherwise the
Embassy there is functioning normally.

REC-
23/6

23/6
1730/23/62

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

Reference.....

E2/30.M1044

Mr Thomas
J.I.P.G.D. (Miss Stowe) away ill

Please see Mr. Ellingworth's enquiry attached. I am as much in the dark as he is. I wonder whether you may not be better placed to answer? If so, I shall be grateful if you will kindly deal with this.



(L. Pickles)

Far Eastern Department
19 June 1967

Dr. Pickles

We have no relations with Iraq, Syria and Yemen. While relations with Algeria and the UAR are technically broken we still retain British staff in Algiers and Cairo as "British Interests Sections" of (respectively) the Swiss and Canadian Embassies. Staff in Cairo have been further reduced recently upon Egyptian demand.

The Sudan has called for a break in relations but it is still not clear quite what form our future representation in Khartoum will take. Probably our Ambassador will be withdrawn and we shall retain a "British Interests Section" of ? Embassy.

Our Ambassador at Beirut was withdrawn at Lebanese request. Probably that is as far as it will go.



19/6

NEAD P.T.O. →

NEAD

I hesitate to trouble you with this but I scarcely think it would be right for FED to telegraph on this subject without clearing with you. Could you approve or modify the attached draft telegram and, if you have no objection, despatch it.



(L. Pickles)
Far Eastern Department
20 June 1967

Amended + now agreed by us.

*200B
20/6*

Eastern Dept.

*Scm,
22.4*

Tel. sent for despatch

all 23/6

RESTRICTED

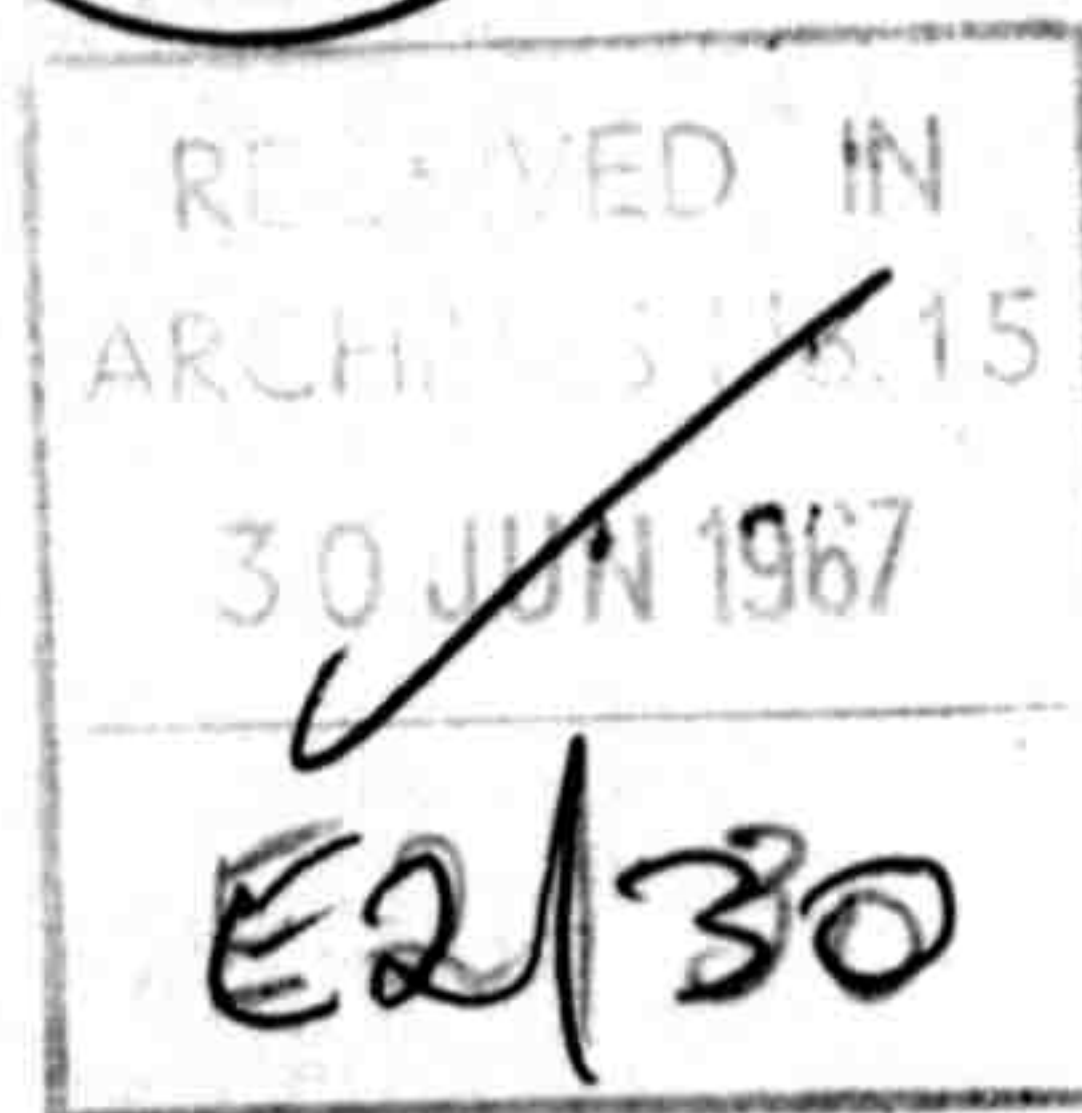
(1931/8/67)



① McKinnon
② Rye
③ H. V. J. A. A. / cur. (46)
BRITISH EMBASSY, 29.4

BEIRUT.

26 June, 1967.



Dear John,

British Interests in the Middle East

I should be grateful if you could let me have a note on the position about the protection of British interests in those Arab posts where diplomatic relations have been broken off. Which countries are responsible for British interests and how many British staff have been allowed to remain? To which posts can we send letters and which posts have cypher facilities?

Wm. Craig

James Craig

(A. J. M. Craig)

J. C. Moberly Esq.,
Eastern Department,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

47

E 2/30

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

13 July, 1967.

British Interests in Middle East Countries

I am replying to your letter of 26 June to John Heberly asking about the position at various Middle East posts about Protecting Powers, etc., and I apologise for the delay.

2. The D.S.A.O. are getting out guidance on this. Meanwhile I enclose a short summary table of the position which I hope will help you and other recipients.

(J.R. Rich)

A.J.M. Craig, Esq.,
Beirut.

Copied to:-

Chancery at Amman, Jeddah, Tehran,
Kuwait, Bahrain,
Tel Aviv, Tripoli,
Tunis, Rabat, Ankara,
Bern, Stockholm, and
Ottawa.

British Interests Section at
Algiers, Khartoum
and Cairo.

RESTRICTED

	<u>Protesting Power</u>	<u>Whether British- Staffed British Interests Section</u>	<u>Bag Facilities</u>	<u>Bag Facilities</u>
U.A.R.	Canada	Yes (b)	Yes (f)	Yes (a)
Algeria	Switzerland	Yes	Yes	Yes
Iraq	Sweden	No (c)	No (c)	No (c)
Syria	Switzerland	No (d)	No (d)	No (d)
Sudan	Italy	Yes (e)	Yes	Yes

Notes

- (a) Telegrams mostly sent through Canadian channels. Restrict classified telegrams to minimum;
- (b) Four diplomatic and ten non-diplomatic staff only since June, 1966;
- (c) Eastern and other F.O. and D.S.A.O. Departments correspond with British Embassy Stockholm as necessary;
- (d) Eastern and other F.O. and D.S.A.O. Departments correspond with British Embassy Berne as necessary;
- (e) All Embassy staff except H.M. Ambassador remain at post;
- (f) Via Canadian channels.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

Registry
No. E 2/30

DRAFT

AF Bag

Thursday 11.00
Type 1 +

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

Top Secret.
Secret.
~~Confidential.~~
Restricted.
Unclassified.

To:—

AJM Craig
Beirut

From

J.R. Kil
Telephone No. & Ext.

Department

Eastern

PRIVACY MARKING

In Confidence

British Interests in Middle East Countries

(v. John H. Kil)

I am replying to your letter of 26 June asking about the position at various Middle East ports about protecting lines, etc, and I apologise for the delay.
2. The D.S.A.O. are getting out guidance on this. Meanwhile I enclose a short summary table of the position which I hope will help you and other recipients.

Enclosure

Copy, with enc., to

Chancery Amman
" Jeddah
" Tehran
" Kuwait
" Bahrain
" Tel Aviv
" Tripoli
" Tunis
" Rabat
" Ankara
British Interests Section Algiers
" " Khartoum
" " Cairo

Chancery Rome
" Stockholm
" Ottawa

Copies to:

[Sent to Mr. Alexander, E.C.O. Dept.]

[ports listed in column on left]

[Closed with Mr.
Alexander, E.C.O. Dept.]
+ Comm. Dept.]

JR
11/7

Type 1 +

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

To:—

From

Top Secret.
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Unclassified.

Telephone No. & Ext.

Department

PRIVACY MARKING

In Confidence

Protecting Power 76

Whelan British-Supplied British Indentants Section 17

Bay Facilities 14

Cyprus Facilities 17

$$\begin{array}{r} 6^2 \\ 4 \overline{) 54} \\ \underline{4} \\ 14 \end{array}$$

U.A.R.	Canada ⁶	Yes ^(b)	Yes ^(b)	Yes ^(a)
Algeria ⁷	Switzerland ¹¹	Yes	Yes	Yes
Iraq	Sudan ⁶	No ^(c)	No ^(c)	No ^(c)
Syria	Switzerland ¹¹	No	No	No
Sudan	Ireland ⁵	Yes ^(e)	Yes	Yes

Notes

- (a) Telegrams mostly sent through Canadian channels. Restrict classified Telegrams to minimum.
- (b) Four diplomatic and ten non-diplomatic staff only since June 1966.
(and other F.O. and DSAO)
- (c) Eastern Department; Consulate with British Embassy Stockholm as necessary;
Bern
- (d)
- (e) All Embassy staff except H.M. Ambassador remain at post
- (f) Via Canadian channels.

(1891/81/67)

UNCLASSIFIED



BRITISH EMBASSY,



48

Dear Tim,

British Interests in the Middle East

I should be grateful if you could let me have a reply to my letter 1891/76/67 of 26 June.

?

Yours ever

J. M. Craig

(A.J.M. Craig)

J.C. Moberly, Esq.,
Eastern Department,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

This has
crossed our
reply

19/7

(1055)

CLASSIFIED



BRITISH EMBASSY,

BERNE.

19 July, 1967



Regy.
Hofr
all
2/7

Dear Department,

We enclose a copy of a Note from the Federal Political Department together with a copy of a "book message" from the Ministry of Defence to the Military Attaché in H.M. former Embassy in Damascus, concerning compassionate visits to Britain by army wives.

2. It is not clear to us when this message left the Ministry of Defence, but it seems to have reached Damascus on 30 June. No action seems to be required and we are only sending this on in case you consider it desirable to draw the attention of the Ministry of Defence to the fact that there is little point in sending such messages to Damascus in the present situation.

Yours ever,

Chancery.

Gus.

Eastern Department,
Foreign Office.



DÉPARTEMENT POLITIQUE FÉDÉRAL

o.841.0B-Syr.99

Prière de rappeler cette référence dans la réponse

Le Département Politique Fédéral a l'honneur de remettre à l'Ambassade de **Sa Majesté Britannique à Berne** à toutes fins utiles

- une photocopie, en deux exemplaires, d'un télégramme reçu par le Service des intérêts étrangers de l'Ambassade de Suisse à Damas, dont le contenu n'est pas explicite.

concernant -

L'Ambassade obligerait le Département en voulant bien donner à cette affaire la suite qu'elle comporte.

Le Département Politique saisit cette occasion pour renouveler à l'Ambassade l'assurance de sa haute considération.

Berne, le

18 juillet 1967

Annexes:

mentionnée

Ambassade de Sa Majesté Britannique
B e r n e

NNNN

02ZC ADS356 CF0252 - LHC020 XH600 IX26021Z
F LONDON LH 162/156

ETAT

DROME DAMAS

E

TE



PROCHON

الجمهورية العربية السورية
شارع الوفاق بين عبد الملك المشرف
القاهرة ٢٢٥١١

AMBAassade de SUISSE
Office des Liaisons Étrangères
30 JUN 1967

291600Z BOOK MESSAGE FROM MINISTRY OF DEFENCE ARMY TO
MILAT BAGHDAD MILAT DAMASCUS NAR/156 FROM PS9 (ARMY)
PD SUBJECT DCI (GEN) 36/1966 PD ADVANCE INFORMATION OF
AMENDMENTS NOW AUTHORISED PD FIRST PD PARA 3B(1) PRESENT
WORDING TO THE END OF SUBPARA B TO BE DELETED AND
FOLLOWING SUBSTITUTED PD QUOTE CMM WIVES WHO

HAVE COMPASSIONATE REASONS FOR VISITING THE UNITED KINGDOM
BUT WHO DO NOT QUALIFY FOR FREE TRAVEL AND WHERE ACUTE
DISTRESS OF SEVERE HARDSHIP WOULD OTHERWISE RESULT PD
PASSAGES MAY BE GRANTED ON THE APPROVAL OF THE HEADQUARTERS OF
THE OVERSEAS COMMAND CMM UNQUOTE PD SECOND PD PARA 3B(1)
PD DELETE FIRST SENTENCE

STARTING CMM QUOTE CMM MEDICAL EVIDENCE AND FINISHING CMM
QUOTE CMM OR A HOSPITAL CMM UNQUOTE CMM AND SUBSTITUTE CMM

QUOTE CMM SATISFACTORY EVIDENCE MUST BE PRODUCED IN SUPPORT OF
AN APPLICATION FOR A PASSAGE UNDER THIS AUTHORITY CMM
UNQUOTE PD THIRD PD FULL AMENDMENTS WILL BE MADE TO DCI IN
CUE COURSE

COL 291600Z NAR/156 PS9 (ARMY)
DCI (GEN) 36/1966 (A) B
PARA 3B(1) DCI



FOREIGN OFFICE,

S.W. 1.

E2/30

21 July, 1967

Correspondence from the Ministry
of Defence to Arab countries who
have severed diplomatic relations
with the U.K.

....

I attach a copy of self explanatory correspondence
on this subject.

2. I should be grateful if you would take whatever
action you consider necessary to avoid a repetition
of such messages slipping through. You will notice
that the message was sent on 29 June to both the
Military Attache in Damascus and in Baghdad. No
harm has been done in this case, but I am sure you
will agree that we should do all we can to avoid the
risk of embarrassment which might result from the
despatch of a message of a more compromising nature.
Moreover, the Syrians must have had a good laugh at
the thought of a British Military Attache still being
in Damascus three weeks after they had broken off
relations with us.

(A. E. Saunders)

Lt. Col. H. G. G. Niven,
DI 4 (B),
Ministry of Defence.

X P.A.
27/7

Registry
No.

DRAFT

Type 1 +

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

Top Secret.
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Unclassified.

AES

To:—

Lieut Colonel H.G.G.
Niven,
DI 4 (B)
Ministry of Defence.

From

A. E. Saunders

Telephone No. & Ext.

Department

PRIVACY MARKING

..... In Confidence

E2/30

Correspondence from the Ministry of
Defence to Arab countries who have
severed diplomatic relations with the U.K.

I attach a copy of self explanatory
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will agree that we should do all we can to
avoid the risk of embarrassment which might
result from the despatch of a message of a
more compromising nature. Moreover the
Syrians must have had a good laugh at the
thought of a British Military Attache still
being in Damascus three weeks after they
had broken off relations with us.

Mr. Montgomery
to see.

24/7

21/7

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

CONFIDENTIAL.

(51)

Sir D. Allen

Sir P. Gore-Booth

Mr. Roberts *has seen on 11 Dec.*

Private Secretary.



P. 48.
Sir J. Allen 19/12
Sir J. Henderson 20.12
Mr. Spens 18/12
Mr. Hume 20/12

Procedures for the Resumption
of Diplomatic Relations.

Problem.

On 4 December the Secretary of State decided that on resumption of diplomatic relations with the U.A.R. the exchange of Ambassadors must be more or less simultaneous. It had previously been proposed that H.M. Ambassador, Sir Harold Beeley, should proceed to Cairo on the date fixed for the resumption of relations - 12 December. The U.A.R., on the other hand, proposed first to appoint a Chargé d'Affaires on 12 December, following him with an Ambassador, Ahmed Hassan El-Feki, who might not have arrived until early in January. A number of other countries may well resume relations with us in the next few months and we need to consider whether in all cases we should make it a principle that the exchange of Ambassadors should be virtually simultaneous.

Recommendation.

2. It is recommended that we should not follow a uniform procedure, but judge each case on its merits. As regards "revolutionary" Arab countries - Iraq, Algeria and Syria - it would be wiser that the exchange of Ambassadors should be /approximately

CONFIDENTIAL.

CONFIDENTIAL.

2.

approximately simultaneous. In the case of less controversial countries, e.g. Sudan and Somalia, we can afford to be less strict about proceeding in step with them.

Argument.

3. It is recognised that the U.A.R. is a special case. The resumption of relations with the U.A.R. is a matter of considerable public interest here and President Nasser's personality and policies are highly controversial. There is thus the danger of public criticism if we appear always to be taking the initiative in improving relations or to be in any way running after the U.A.R.

4. In the case of Iraq, we have in the past been treated in a cavalier manner over the appointment of Ambassadors. After the departure of Dr. Bazzaz in 1965 the Iraqi Government nominated four Ambassadors and all of them were taken away to other jobs before they could present their Letters. It would therefore be wiser to make sure that they are sending an Ambassador here before we appoint one to Baghdad.

5. Algeria has behaved consistently badly towards us in recent months - over the long detention of the pilots, the failure to release their aeroplane or to allow Mr. Ross to leave the country. Moreover, the messages from the Secretary of State to President Boumédiénne and M. Bouteflika were not answered and it seems desirable that Algeria should be expected to match any steps we take towards a resumption of relations.

6. Syria has been almost invariably hostile towards us and a constant disruptive force in the Middle East. We have no large interests in the country and there seems little reason why we

/should

CONFIDENTIAL.

should move any faster towards resumption of relations than they do.

7. In other less controversial countries such as Sudan and Somalia, there seems to be advantage in applying less strict standards of reciprocity over the simultaneous exchange of Ambassadors. We have always taken the line that it is desirable to have diplomatic relations and to appear unduly fussy about the protocol of restoring them might throw some doubt on our sincerity and be taken by those countries as questioning their good faith. Moreover, ^xthese ^xdeveloping countries are in their infancy; their stability is precarious and the restoration of diplomatic relations with a former "imperialist" power is more difficult and controversial for them than a similar step is for us. The question of "face" is of far greater concern in their internal politics than it is to us. Their bureaucracy tends to be primitive and the actual procedure of appointing an Ambassador is far more difficult for them than it is for us while their dearth of suitable people makes it often hard for them quickly to find someone suitable for so important an appointment as Ambassador in London. We know, for example, that the Somalis think that they will have difficulty, if and when they resume relations, in finding a suitable candidate and that they may prefer to appoint a Chargé d'Affaires in the first place. It would, on the other hand, suit us better to proceed straight to the appointment of an Ambassador. We have every reason for wishing to encourage the present Somali Prime Minister in his desire to mend his fences with the West and with Kenya and Ethiopia and I think that there would be advantage in not being unduly insistent that we should proceed exactly in step over the appointment of Ambassadors once a decision to resume /diplomatic

x Their
does not
wholly
apply to
the Sudan

Are you sure
at the moment?

CONFIDENTIAL.

4.

diplomatic relations is taken.

8. As regards developing countries, to which special considerations do not apply, it may as a general rule be helpful to them to let it appear that we are taking the first steps and I think that we should in these cases, and provided that it entails no real disadvantage to us, be prepared to help them in this way.

9. This problem does not arise for countries like Guinea, Mali and Congo (Brazzaville) where we have no intention of appointing a resident Ambassador, even when relations are restored.

John Henniker

(John Henniker),
7.12.67.

Denis Allen 9/12

*I agree generally & also
to the specific recommendations.
The main one should be
'easy' about the Sudan
however, & not that it's
'developing' but because for
various reasons, it is a very
special case*

*PU Gordon
It/342*

11/12

It is very much a matter of each
case on its merits. But the merits
are highly political. And that includes
here too. It also involves questions
of urgency which are national interests
imposed. By all means be understanding;
— but yes too!

GAB.

puvs
18/12

Rh

19/12

N

15

1958



NEA) ok.
Eastern
Amendment

Is that answer

Discard DEAD With the Compliments cleared

Mr. M... Mr. Br...
with whom Mr. Br...
night). Party. Office
an suggesting inaction indicated

known? Pse
ring auto. 199.

THE PARLIAMENTARY CLERK

BOARD OF TRADE

1. Mr. Montgomery

2. J. S.

22/31 lined
P.A. 22/3

Comp/66

22/3

HOUSE OF COMMONS

(52)

QUESTION for ~~ORAL~~/WRITTEN ANSWER on

The Board of Trade (will be in order
(will not be in the order

The Q. IS NOT likely to be reached

FRIDAY

22-3-68

NOTICE given on 19.3.68

Q. no. 22 Page 5133

Party L.A.....

DRAFT REPLY TO BE RETURNED TO PARLIAMENTARY
BRANCH BY ~~NOON~~ 21.3.68.

NOTES FOR SUPPLEMENTARIES
~~SHOULD~~/NEED NOT BE PROVIDED

REGD. PPS.

S.1301/1968

E 29... 1169...
2/30

LAST PAPER.

LAST PAPER

BOARD OF TRADE

FRIDAY 22 MARCH 1968

58 Mrs Margaret McKay (Wandsworth, Clapham): To ask the President of the Board of Trade, whether the volume of British exports and of British services to the Arab States are increasing; what estimate he has made of the effect of devaluation on that trade; and what initiatives Her Majesty's Government have in mind to develop further that trade and to increase and improve the relevant trade communications.

MRS. GWYNETH DUNWOODY

The value of exports to Arab states rose by 12 per cent. between 1965 and 1966 but fell by 15 per cent. last year. The fall reflects the situation in the Middle East as well as the delay to exports caused by the dock strikes in the United Kingdom; there has been some recovery in recent months. Information on exports of services to these countries is not available. I expect to see progressive improvement in exports as devaluation takes effect. Diplomatic relations with the United Arab Republic and the Sudan have been resumed and it has been made known that Her Majesty's Government would be willing to resume relations with the other Arab countries which have broken them. These steps, together with the services the Government provides to exporters, should help further our exports to Arab countries.

generally

LAST PAPER

APPROVED BY:-

Initials and
date

Initials and
date

McK. 21/3/68

ANSWER APPROVED BY
THE PRESIDENT

THE MINISTER OF STATE

GPD

NOTES FOR SUPPLEMENTARIES
attached / not provided

ORAL/WRITTEN ANSWER given
on

see OFFICIAL REPORT
Column(s)

Parliamentary Question With Regard To Volume Of British Exports And Services To The Arab States; Procedures For Resumption Of Diplomatic Relations. UK Diplomatic Relations With Syria, Jordan, Iraq And Lebanon. 22 Mar. 1968. MS Middle East Online: Iraq, 1914-1974: Selected files from series AIR, CAB, CO, FCO, FO, PREM, T, WO, The National Archives, Kew, UK FCO 17/32. The National Archives (Kew, United Kingdom). Archives Unbound, link.gale.com/apps/doc/SC5107473579/GDSC?u=webdemo&sid=bookmark-GDSC&xid=01f24fca&pg=1. Accessed 11 Apr. 2022.